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VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 18879 SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 1995 • SHVAT 28, 5755 • SHAABAN 27, 1415 NIS 4.20 (EILAT NIS 3.60)

## Rabin to name 'separation committee' today

**SARAH HONIG**  
PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin is expected to announce the members of the committee to research separation between Israel and the Palestinians at today's cabinet meeting.  
Israel Radio reported the committee would not be made up of ministers, but primarily security experts.  
Rabin recently predicted there would be no elections for the Palestinian Authority in the near future and no redeployment of the IDF, it was disclosed over the weekend.  
He said this in a meeting with members of the Likud Knesset faction, though it was stipulated that these assessments were not to be leaked.  
Rabin disclosed that he gave PLO chief Yasser Arafat two options: holding elections now, with IDF soldiers pulling back to their bases for election day only, or beginning negotiations for an interim agreement, which would eventually lead to IDF redeployment to agreed lines. The Likud MKs were told that Arafat opted for the second alternative.  
Arafat reportedly told Rabin he believes these negotiations would last some four months, but Rabin said he thinks this would be a considerably more lengthy process. The bottom line, Rabin said, is that the IDF will not withdraw from cities in Judea and Samaria, and Palestinian elections are not to be expected in the short run.  
Arafat is not enthused by the prospect of early elections, according to Rabin's report of their most recent conversation. Rabin said he asked Arafat: "Do you really have any control over who would win the vote?" and his impression was that Arafat would rather not find out.  
Saeb Erekat released a statement last night expressing astonishment at Rabin's declaration.  
"It seems that what Rabin is saying in recent days in English to the Palestinians is completely different from what he says in Hebrew to his soldiers and political partners," he said.  
Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), the member of the PLO executive committee who led the Oslo talks and who was a cosigner of the Declaration of Principles (Continued on Page 2)

## Labor MKs demand preliminary reading for Golan bill

**Jerusalem Post Staff**  
LABOR MKs Emanuel Zisman, Avigdor Kahalani, and Ya'acov Shefi plan to present the Golan bill to the Knesset for preliminary reading on February 15 and "will not agree to any postponement or change," according to a letter they sent to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last week.  
The three are seeking to pass legislation which would require a majority of 70 MKs to make any change in the status of the Golan Heights, and a 65 percent majority in the case of any referendum on the future of the region.  
In the letter, which was also sent to Knesset faction leader Ra'anan Cohen and party secretary Nissim Zivli, they said that, although they had "shown more than good will and ongoing readiness to wait for a faction meeting on the matter, no final date for such a discussion has been set." They added that they hope time would be found prior to February 15 to do so, as agreed with Rabin and the faction members.

# Two more Beit Lid victims die

## 8,000 attend solidarity rally at site of attack

**RAINE MARCUS and Tim**

TWO more victims of last Sunday's bomb attack at the Beit Lid junction died over the weekend, bringing the death toll from the suicide bombing to 21.  
Some eight thousand people held a rally at the junction last night.  
Lt. Eyal Levy, 20, of Ashdod, who had suffered serious head wounds, died yesterday at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem. He will be buried today at 2:30 in the Ashdod Military Cemetery.  
On Friday, Cpl. Yaniv Weiser, 18, of Givatayim, died at Meir Hospital in Kfar Sava. He will be buried today at 11 at the Kiryat Shaul Military Cemetery.  
Levy, a communications officer in the paratroopers, had studied communications at Bezek College. He is survived by his parents and two sisters.  
"He was a man who loved life," said an uncle.  
Of Weiser, a neighbor said she "had never met such a good kid in my life." He is also survived by his parents and two sisters.  
There was no significant change over the weekend in the condition of the other victims still hospitalized at Hadassah. At Meir Hospital, 19-year-old Tsafir Ben-Shlomo, who was seriously wounded, regained consciousness and was reported to be improving.  
Last night's rally, organized by 44 mayors and local council heads, attracted participants from throughout the country. Because of their numbers, however, many busloads of demonstrators were prevented from reaching the junction by police roadblocks. They arrived at around 9:30, when the demonstration was already over.  
Speaking from a stage draped in black, above which the names of the victims were listed, Eli



Participants at last night's Beit Lid rally. On the right, above, Cpl. Yaniv Weiser, below, Lt. Eyal Levy; the latest victims of the bombing. (Ailon Ron/Israel Sun)

Deri, council head of nearby Kfar Yona, urged the government to stop the peace process. "It's no shame to stop this process and bring back security to the people," he said. "Once we were a people renowned for our value of human life - let's bring that value back."  
The crowd lit hundreds of memorial candles and some waved banners bearing anti-Rabin and anti-government slogans. Other small groups burned placards bearing the prime minister's

picture.  
But Herzliya Mayor Eli Landau stressed that last night's rally was not a political demonstration, and that no political speakers had been invited. Other organizers said that Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu had asked to speak, but was refused.  
A minute's silence in remembrance of those killed was interrupted by shouting and heckling from small crowds of demon-

strators. The hecklers then ran towards Ashdod Prison, opposite the site of the demonstration, where Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin is being held. They kicked in the jail fencing, but were restrained by police and soon returned to the stage area.  
These demonstrators continued to interrupt the rally throughout the evening. Even the father of the late Gilad Galon, killed in the bombing, was interrupted by anti-government

chanting as he said kaddish for his son.  
Each time the crowd interrupted, Eli Dado, whose son Gil was killed by terrorists at Gaza's Netzarim junction in November, tried to calm them from the stage.  
"Respect this place and what it represents," he urged. But his pleas were to no avail.  
Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau also emphasized that the rally was not political, but

said the Palestinians are obviously not "mentally or spiritually ripe for peace."  
"None of the Arab population really condemned this attack," he said. "Where are the mufsis? Why haven't any of their religious leaders paid condolence visits?"  
"None of them has approached us to say that they do not give their blessings to these deeds," Lau said. "They're just not ready for peace."

## Three held for Ma'aleh Amos arson

**HERB KEINON and news agencies**  
POLICE arrested three Palestinians suspected of torching two mobile homes yesterday that a group of Ma'aleh Amos residents recently erected outside their settlement.  
The arson occurred as dozens of protesters, including a number of Gush Shalom activists, demonstrated near the settlement against the placement of the mobile homes.  
A small group of Palestinians set one mobile home ablaze while the other demonstrators were walking uphill to the second mobile home, said Palestinian activist Mubarak Awad, who denounced the arson.  
Some settlers responded by firing a number of rounds into the air. Gush Shalom activist Uri Avnery said the settlers fired 200 to 300 rounds from rifles and sub-machine guns. No one was hurt in the confrontation.

Awad claimed the settlers fired at the group of protesters, as did Avnery.  
"Never before have settlers fired upon other Jews. This symbolizes a new stage in the confrontation between the settlers backed by the Israeli government and the Palestinians," said Avnery.  
The army confirmed that settlers opened fire, but said they shot in the air, not at people.  
Gush Etzion Regional Council head Shilo Gal said that the shots were fired after the trailers were torched, because "the Arabs began moving in the direction of the settlement. People saw pillars of smoke coming from the trailers and a group moving in the direc-

tion of the settlement, so they shot in the air."  
A small group of Ma'aleh Amos residents erected the mobile homes on Thursday as an act of defiance of the government. Three mobile homes were erected, one inside the settlement's border, and two outside.  
The move was neither initiated or sanctioned by the Ma'aleh Amos leadership or the Gush Etzion Regional Council. The civil administration said the trailers set up outside the settlement were illegal and that they would be removed.  
However, Gal said he "did not expect" that after the trailers were set up, someone would burn them down.  
Ma'aleh Amos is a settlement of some 60 families, mostly haredim, about 13 kilometers south of Bethlehem.

## Eighteen killed in Egyptian clashes

**CAIRO (AP)** - Police shot dead 14 suspected Muslim militants yesterday and the radicals killed two policemen and two civilians in one of the bloodiest days in Egypt's Islamic insurgency.  
The deaths bring the total killed this month to 81, resulting from intensified battles in southern Egypt between police and militants who are trying to topple the secular government and install Islamic rule.  
On Wednesday, Egypt's annual Police Day, both President Hosni Mubarak and Interior Minister Hassan Alfi made tough statements promising to pursue the Islamic radicals, who have been battling the government for nearly three years.  
January's death toll is the highest for any month during the insurgency.  
According to security sources,

12 suspects were killed as police tried to flush militants out of hideouts in quarries near Samalout in El-Minya province, 200 km. south of Cairo.  
The sources said the militants opened fire as police tried to raid their mountain hideouts, but the police suffered no casualties.  
Police also killed two suspected radicals as they got off a train in Sohag, a further 200 km. south of the capital, the sources said.  
The two victims were on a train coming from the nearby town of Nag Hamadi, and security officials apparently suspected they took part in an attack on police

there earlier yesterday.  
In the Nag Hamadi attack, radicals opened fire on three unarmed policemen outside a hospital, killing two of them and two passersby, including a woman.  
A high-ranking police officer also was wounded in the back when he tried to seize the militants after the attack in Nag Hamadi, in Qena province 470 km. south of Cairo.  
Six other people also were wounded either in the initial attack or in gunfire aimed at the police officer, who tried to seize the radicals as they fled.

## Weiss at Auschwitz: Europe 'lake of Jewish blood'

**OSWIECIM, Poland** - Calling Europe a "great lake of Jewish blood," Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss remembered the dead of Auschwitz on Friday with an indictment of Western governments and silent citizens who, he said, share the guilt of the Nazi Holocaust.  
"There were also heroes in the black abyss. We will never forget the righteous," said Weiss, speaking in Hebrew at the site of the Birkenau gas chambers, liberated by the Soviet army on January 27, 1945.  
"All Europe is a great lake of Jewish blood, a frozen lake," said Weiss, who was born in Poland in 1935, but escaped as a child.  
"Many contributed to that crime," Weiss said. "Millions of German citizens who voted to give power to Hitler and his troops; the democratic world, which remained silent and refused to accept Jewish refugees; nations which created fascist regimes; numerous citizens of Europe who collaborated and joined the fascists, informed about Jews, and gave them away to the Germans, helped in planning the death, murdered Jews and took over their property."  
Weiss read from the chillingly banal diary of a Nazi physician, Dr. Johann Paul Kremer, who came to Auschwitz in 1942.  
August 31 - "The food in the canteen is excellent. Delicious salad. Refreshing tomato juice."  
Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel claimed center stage at the ceremony, vividly reminding the world of the horror of the Nazi murder of six million Jews. Wiesel offered images of men,

women, and children from throughout Europe, stripped of hope and cast into an inferno.  
Wiesel recalled that, as Auschwitz was about to be liberated, he was a youth "with no hope, no future, and known only by his number A 70713."  
He told mourners to "listen to the silent screams of terrified mothers, listen to the prayers of anguished old men and women, listen to the tears of... Jewish children, beautiful looking girls among them, with golden hair, whose vulnerable tenderness never left me."  
"Look and listen as the victims quietly walk towards dark flames so gigantic that the planet itself seemed in danger. It is true that not all victims were Jews," said Wiesel, "but all Jews were victims."  
The main ceremony before a crowd of around 5,000 began with a traditional prayer from Poland's Chief Rabbi Menachem Jaskowicz. "The Lord is our God. The Lord is the king," he said.  
Starting with the Jewish prayer was a change in the program that acknowledged nine out of every 10 who died at Auschwitz-Birkenau were Jews.  
Snow began to fall as the Jewish prayer was followed by those of Moslems, Roman Catholics, Orthodox Christians, Lutherans and Calvinists, noting many nations and religions had suffered, but Jews had been meant for complete destruction.  
Before the prayers and speeches at Bir-

kenau, some Jews who had limped, or were carried, out the gates of the nearby Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz 50 years ago marched back in.  
They were led by President Lech Walesa; Wiesel, heading the US delegation; French Social Affairs Minister Simone Veil; and Weiss. All walked side-by-side under Auschwitz's cruelly deceptive entrance sign that declares now, in rusting letters: "Arbeit Macht Frei."  
Walesa said that, as the leader of the Solidarity trade union and an electrician in the Gdansk shipyard, he always believed life achieves meaning through work. "If I did not know over what gate this slogan is placed, I would have said that it is work that makes man free," Walesa said at Auschwitz.  
"Here, this slogan was placed as a mockery," he said.  
"The distance we have walked from the sign that says, 'Work makes you free,' to this death house, is a symbolic journey," Walesa said. "A journey down the road that stands for the suffering of many nations, especially of the Jewish nation."  
The reference to the Jewish nation was missing from copies of the prepared speech handed to reporters minutes before the ceremony. Walesa had not mentioned Jews during his public speeches Thursday.  
In a meeting of Nobel Peace Prize winners Thursday night, Wiesel had told Walesa it was very important to mention Jews and other nations, including Poles, (AP, Reuters)

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# PA denounces raid on Abu Dis college

## 21 arrested for suspected involvement in terror groups

JON IMMANUEL

SOLDIERS raided Abu Dis College of Technology dormitories just outside Jerusalem before dawn Friday, arresting 21 students suspected of involvement with Islamic terror groups.

The Palestinian Authority's Education Ministry yesterday issued a statement saying: "This military action is a violation of academic freedoms, the peace agreement, and the agreement for early empowerment in the West Bank."

Palestinian education outside Gaza and Jericho has been under its authority for the past five months.

Students told reporters that dozens of soldiers broke into dormitories by climbing ladders and breaking through windows.

The college, which has 150 students, is known as a bastion of support for Hamas and Islamic Jihad. During the raid many students resisted arrest and tried to flee as soldiers smashed doors and windows while chasing after them.

The IDF said that inflammatory material was found during searches of rooms. Yesterday's *Al-Quds* daily said 21 students were arrested.

Soldiers entered the women's dormitories, ushered the students out of the building and questioned them, but did not arrest them. Four were slightly injured in the encounter. The raid on the women's dormitories was considered particularly disturbing, student sources reported.

A few other activists were arrested in a raid on buildings in



A soldier stands guard Friday over Palestinian students arrested on a raid of Abu Dis College of Technology outside Jerusalem. Twenty-one students suspected of involvement with Islamic terror groups were held. (IDF Spokesman)

Eizariya, next to Abu Dis, the IDF said.

A military spokesman acknowledged that soldiers damaged doors and said the civil administration would repair the damage, but that "measured

force" was used only against students who briefly struggled with soldiers. "During the search of rooms, inciteful notices were found calling for hostile activity. Other [unspecified] facts also incriminated the students," the

IDF said.

Up to 100 Hamas supporters were arrested last week in raids on offices and homes in the Hebron, Nablus, and Jenin areas following the Beit Lid massacre. Almost 1,600 Islamic activists

have been arrested since the October 19 bombing of a bus in Tel Aviv, according to security sources.

The IDF said that Friday's raid also "was conducted in the context of our war against terror."

# Three soldiers wounded in Netzarim ambush

ALON PINKAS

THREE IDF soldiers were wounded Friday morning when shots were fired at an army patrol from an ambush near Netzarim in the Gaza Strip.

Two soldiers were hospitalized in Beersheba's Soroka Hospital and were listed in satisfactory and good condition. A third soldier was treated by army medics for minor flesh wounds.

The incident occurred when a mobile patrol driving from the Karni helicopter pad to Netzarim came under automatic fire from across the road.

The soldiers returned fire, but in their debriefing said they did not know whether they hit the assailants.

Some six gunmen were involved in the incident, the army said, the number of ambushers being determined by the variety of weapons evidently used.

A Southern Command source said last night that shooting incidents occur almost daily.

"Most of these shots are random and are fired by lone assailants who evade Palestinian police and shoot from houses or orange groves within the autonomous territory, close to where IDF patrols pass," the source said.

The army reported the incident to the Israeli-Palestinian coordination office. Jon Immanuel contributed to this report.

# Shepherd killed, apparently by old mine or grenade

JON IMMANUEL

A PALESTINIAN shepherd was killed and his brother wounded by an explosion near Sussia, south of Hebron, yesterday.

The IDF said the cause of the explosion was being investigated, but appeared to be an old grenade or mine which the two found.

Issa Ali Abu Aram, 20, died and his brother Mahmoud, 15, was wounded in the chest.

Palestinian sources quoted Mahmoud as claiming an Israeli patrol threw a grenade at the two

and then opened fire, wounding him in the chest. He was quoted as saying the soldiers wanted to eject them from lands which the IDF had confiscated as a military firing range.

However, doctors at Alys Hospital, where the two were taken, confirmed that both were struck by what appeared to be an old shell.

In downtown Hebron on Friday, troops arrested two ax-carrying youths suspected of planning to attack soldiers.

# Gov't praises Jordan-PLO accord

THE government on Friday praised the economic agreement signed between Jordan and the PLO, despite a clause calling for a Palestinian state.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin said Israel supports the agreement signed in Amman on Thursday, because it indicates a rapprochement between Jordan's King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Arafat called his meeting with Hussein "very successful and important," adding that the agreements would "push forward the special relations between us."

Beilin said better relations could lead to a confederation between Jordan and the Palestinian Authority in the Gaza Strip and Judea/Samaria, one of the proposed solutions for the final status of the peace talks with Israel.

hus of the peace agreement with the Palestinians.

"As an Israeli, I would not sign [the agreement], because it mentions a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital," Beilin said on Israel Radio.

"But apart from that I think this agreement, also from our perspective, is not problematic, and in principle is even positive," he said.

Beilin echoed assertions by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that Israel will not compromise its control over Jerusalem, even when the issue comes up for negotiation with the Palestinians in talks on the final status of a peace agreement in 1996.

The Jordan-PLO agreement allows for banking and financial cooperation as well as cooperation

in transportation, telecommunications, information and culture, education, and security.

Arafat returned to Gaza on Friday and said Palestinian-Jordanian relations are like those of "twins."

"We had successful and positive meetings, especially the agreements signed to push the wheel of ties between us forward in the interest of our Palestinian and Jordanian peoples," Arafat told reporters on arriving in Gaza.

On his way back from Amman, Arafat stopped in Cairo to discuss Israel's continued expansion of Jewish settlements with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Palestinian sources said.

Neither Arafat nor Mubarak spoke with reporters.

# Syria 'childish' for not negotiating

HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON

SYRIA "is behaving like a child" in not returning its ambassador here to continue negotiations, Israeli sources charged yesterday.

Both Israel and the US are exasperated by Syria's behavior on the matter, they said.

Ambassador Walid Mualeem has been in Damascus for most of January, but was to have returned last week to resume talks with Israeli Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich.

Damascus has been stringing along the administration with assertions that Mualeem was heading back imminently, which is Syria's way of trying to extract US gestures in exchange for resuming the talks, the sources say.

However, they added, both the administration and Congress are less and less likely to accommodate Damascus in light of its harboring of terrorists responsible for the Beit Lid bombing.

When Mualeem finally does return, he will "have to come up with very, very good explanations" for Syria's role in terrorism, a source said.

The US had been forthcoming last month, when President Clinton hosted a meeting between the two sides' chiefs of staff following their military talks.

However, in a phone call last Sunday just hours after the Beit Lid massacre, Secretary of State Warren Christopher told Foreign Minister Farouk Shara that "there's no US intention to reward them [Syria] for sending the ambassador back," a source said.

"It's our and the American's belief that [Assad is] playing a double-tactical game. First, to sell it twice for the same price. Second, in light of the Alexandria summit, when Assad called for the Arabs to slow normalization

with Israel, now he's trying to create an atmosphere of crisis - as if there's no progress on the Syrian track - in order to delay the normalization."

Rabinovich explained why discussing the matter now is premature, Israeli officials said, adding: "We're trying to put things in the proper proportions. But when we give briefings [on Capitol Hill] on our issues, obviously that would include the Syrian issue."

Rabinovich has already held private meetings with 40 Representatives and Senators since the new Congress convened this month under Republican control. Meanwhile, Sen. Patrick Leahy lashed out last week at Israeli lobbying against a potential US troop presence on the Golan, charging them with seeking to topple the Rabin government.

"We have a group of Israelis coming to our offices, informing us of what American national interests are, not Israeli interests they would like us to support. In fact, [there was] no reference to Israel or the interests of the Israeli government," Leahy, the ranking Democrat on the foreign operations subcommittee, said on the Senate floor.

"They say they are doing us the service of helping us figure out what American interests are. That is what I was elected for, that is what I am paid for, and I will try to make that determination without someone from another country coming in and telling me what our interests are."

Leahy was presumably referring to former officials of the Shamir government, who have lobbied here at least three times against the US dispatching troops to the Golan to monitor an Israeli-Syrian peace deal.

# Jerusalem Palestinians appeal for intervention to end closure

BILL HUTMAN and ALON PINKAS

HUNDREDS of Palestinian residents and businessmen in Jerusalem appealed over the weekend for international intervention to end the closure of the territories, sending a petition to UN representatives and foreign consulates in the capital.

"It is unnatural to separate east Jerusalem from the West Bank," said Ziyad Hamori, chairman of the Aruna Follow-Up Committee, the grass-roots organization of Arab businessmen and homeowners which initiated the petition.

"Palestinians from the West Bank shop in Jerusalem, work in Jerusalem, and pray in Jerusalem," Hamori said. "The closure is an unfair method of collective punishment," he said.

Army sources said yesterday that a decision on the duration of the closure will be made early in the week.

The closure has devastated business in eastern Jerusalem at a time when the upcoming Ramadan holiday was expected to bring a swell of shoppers from the territories, Hamori said.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Ghali discusses region with Peres, Moussa

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali discussed the Middle East peace process on Friday with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his Egyptian counterpart Amr Moussa, in a 45-minute chat at Zurich airport, a UN statement said. *Reuters*

## Zach, Yehoshua to be given Israel Prize

The Israel Prize for Hebrew literature, poetry and translation will be presented by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and A.A. Yehoshua, it was decided by the prize committee Friday. Zach, the committee wrote, is one of the greatest Hebrew poets of the century, and Yehoshua is one of the outstanding authors of the generation of independence. *Hin*

## Withdrawal from Jordan territory to begin

Israel will begin withdrawing tomorrow to the agreed international border in keeping with the October 26 peace treaty, a Jordanian army officer said yesterday. The pullout will be completed on February 10 as scheduled in the accord, said Brig.-Gen. Tahsin Shurthout, head of the Jordanian delegation to the joint border committee with. *Reuters*

## Senator Dole coming in April

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole will visit Israel in early April for four days. Dole and Sen. Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Operations Committee, are expected to meet Tuesday with Peres in Washington. *Shmuel Segev*

# RABIN

(Continued from Page One) ples, called for a temporary suspension of negotiations with Israel, in order to draft a balance sheet and to decide how to proceed in the implementation of the second phase of the agreement. Abbas made is view known in Moscow, where he heads the Palestinian delegation to the joint Russian-Palestinian Committee

monitoring the peace talks with Israel.

In an interview with the Moscow correspondent of the Lebanese paper *Al-Hayat*, Abbas said he opposed the suicide bombing at Beit Lid, but he also rejected the Israeli argument that the Palestinians are responsible for Israel's security. He called on Arafat to disarm all militias.

# Poll: Netanyahu leading Rabin by 22 percent

SARAH HONIG

A NEW opinion poll conducted after the Beit Lid bombing gives Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu a 22 percent lead over Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

This is the biggest gap between the two thus far, though Netanyahu has been consistently ahead in the polls for several months with leads well in excess of the margin of error.

The latest poll, commissioned by *Ma'ariv* from the Motagim Institute, shows Netanyahu with 50 percent support, with Rabin trailing far behind with 28 percent. Ten percent of the respondents chose neither of the two, 7 percent had no opinion and 5 percent did not answer.

The poll was conducted on January 24 and was based on 501 adult Jewish interviewees. The margin of error was put by the pollsters at 4.5 percent.

An earlier poll by veteran pollster Dr. Mina Zemach of Dahaf encompassed a sample of 500 Jews and Arabs and was conducted prior to the Beit Lid massacre. It gave Netanyahu 51 percent of the total with Rabin coming in at 42 percent. A Zemach poll of a month ago already showed an 8 percent lead for Netanyahu over Rabin, a finding which had been bolstered by others polls at the time.

Rabin and Netanyahu reached parity some nine months ago, and Netanyahu has been climbing in popularity ever since with Rabin slipping back.

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved mother and grandmother

# FRANCINE CSILLAG

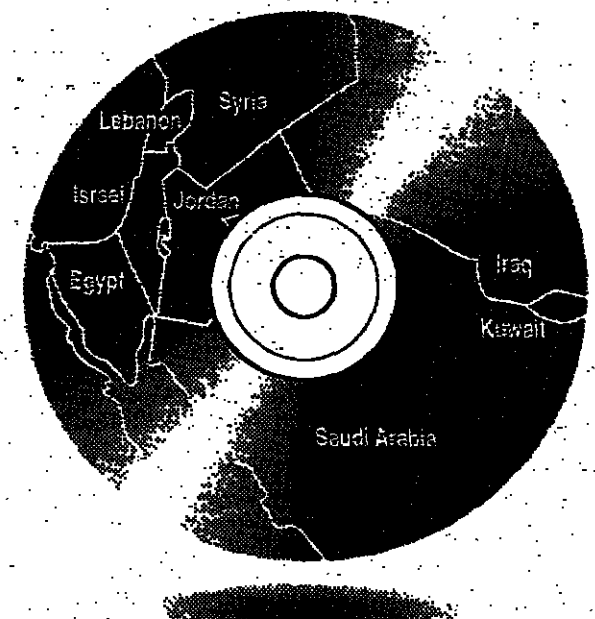
The funeral will take place on Monday, 29 Shvat 5755, January 30, 1995, at 4 p.m. at the Kfar Shmaryahu Cemetery.

Shiva at the home of the deceased, 43 Hazorea Street, Kfar Shmaryahu

Mourning by:  
Her son and daughter-in-law: Robert and Stella Rosenthal  
Her granddaughter: Tamar and Thierry Zaidner  
Her grandson: Ronny Rosenthal and the Elkabas and Elmaleh families and their children

On Monday, January 30, at 3:30 p.m., we will unveil the tombstone of our dear aunt  
**Dr. AMALIA ROSEN** 77  
late wife of Chief Rabbi David Moses Rosen 77 of Romania at the Sanhedria Cemetery, Jerusalem  
Avivah and Eric Zornberg  
Freana Gottlieb  
and the Avimor, Alchased, Nakkal, and Koch families

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## US-Vietnam hostilities end after 20 years

JOHN ROGERS  
HANOI

THE United States and communist Vietnam finally buried the hatchet yesterday nearly 20 years after the war that scarred a generation in both countries.

In a quiet ceremony in Hanoi, the former enemies established formal relations by signing two agreements settling claims to diplomatic and private property seized during the war and setting up diplomatic offices in each other's capitals.

Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai wished reporters "a happy new year" after senior officials signed the accords at a table on which small US and Vietnamese flags stood side by side.

But there was no other comment by officials of either side, and each government issued a separate statement.

Vietnam begins the Tet lunar new year, its biggest annual festival, on tomorrow. US officials will start work at the US liaison office in Hanoi, a modern nine-story building, on Friday, the first working day after the holiday.

Vietnam and the United States agreed last year to open the offices, which will function like embassies, officials said.

But full embassies cannot open until the two governments establish diplomatic ties, before which Washington wants more results in its drive to determine the fate of more than 2,000 servicemen missing in Indochina.

"Achieving the fullest accounting for our prisoners of war (POWs) and missing in action (MIAs) will remain our highest priority in relations with Vietnam," the US State Department said.

"Any decision on the establishment of diplomatic relations with Vietnam will depend on further progress on POW/MIA accounting from the war," it said.

Vietnam said the opening of liaison offices "marks an important step forward on the road towards normalisation of relations... thus creating favourable conditions for the two governments to develop ties and continue resolving issues of mutual concern."

The existence of the liaison offices will ease contacts and build mutual confidence, officials said. This, in turn, would aid cooperation on the MIA issue.

One property agreement covered diplomatic buildings, including the old South Vietnam Embassy in Washington and the former US Embassy in Saigon, from whose roof helicopters evacuated Americans and Vietnamese before communist forces took over the city on April 30, 1975.

The other settled outstanding private claims, mainly by US oil companies whose Saigon offices were seized.

Officials said earlier that property and financial claims worth more than \$500 million were under negotiation. The terms of the agreements were not disclosed.

The low-key ceremony in Hanoi had immense historical significance for both countries, formally ending three decades of war, hostility and suspicion.

The United States became involved in Vietnam in the 1950s, training the South Vietnamese army, and the first Americans were killed fighting communist guerrillas in 1959.

More "military advisers" moved to Saigon in the early 1960s and the US formally entered the war between South Vietnam and the communist North in 1964.

US forces withdrew from Indochina after the 1973 Paris peace accords and 591 US prisoners of war went home. (Reuters)

## Fears grow of Peru-Ecuador war

News agencies

QUITO - Ecuador yesterday declared a state of emergency following an escalation of hostilities in a long running border dispute with Peru.

President Sixto Duran Ballen made the announcement after a day of skirmishes between Peruvian and Ecuadorian troops throughout the border area.

"In compliance with my obligation to the country and to the Ecuadorian people and within the unshakable peaceful mission of Ecuador I have had to declare a state of emergency," Duran said in speech to the nation broadcast on local television.

A state of emergency will grant Duran special powers, but it was unclear what measures he planned to take.

Peruvian troops were dispatched late Friday to the wild jungle frontier with Ecuador.

Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori traveled late Friday to towns near the border to meet with military commanders, a spokesman said.

Peru and Ecuador fought a war in 1941 over their 1,600 km border, and animosity has been strong ever since. The disputed area is a 80-km stretch of a remote, jungle-covered mountain chain, the Cordillera del Condor.

Peru charged that an Ecuadorian helicopter had bombed one of its outposts.

But in his four-minute speech, Duran-Ballen denied Peru's claim and charged Peruvian troops with launching an attack early Friday against the Lt. Hugo Ortiz border post. He blamed Fujimori for the fighting.

"The president of Peru has ordered the removal of our forces that occupy Ecuadorian territory, a fact that has resulted in conflicts of major magnitude," Duran-Ballen said.

The Peruvian Foreign Ministry had no comment on Duran-Ballen's charges.

The Ecuadorian Joint Chief of Staffs announced late Friday



Peruvian infantrymen help deploy tanks along the border with Ecuador yesterday.

(Reuters)

that fighting was continuing and that Peruvian troops had used mortars against Ecuadorian positions.

The military communiqué said Ecuadorian forces "remained firm in their positions and caused serious casualties to the aggressors."

There were no confirmed reports of casualties, and it was not possible immediately to verify either account.

The head of the Organization of American States, Cesar Gaviria, was to travel yesterday to

Quito and Lima to try to calm the tensions. In a statement issued in Washington, the OAS said Gaviria talked to both presidents Friday by phone from Bogotá, Colombia.

In Tumbes, a city 1,000 kms northwest of Lima, Peruvian troops were placed on alert and tanks were moved toward the border. The state-owned television station broadcast footage late Friday of troops in trucks headed toward the border from Tumbes.

Fujimori met all day with Pe-

ru's National Defense Council, and Foreign Minister Efraim Goldenberg received the ambassadors of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States, which have mediated the border dispute in the past.

Duran-Ballen said he also spoken to Fujimori in an attempt to "preserve the peaceful coexistence of our people." He did not elaborate on their conversation.

Duran-Ballen's decrees Friday night give the government exceptional powers to restrict individual

liberties, including the right to assembly and freedom of the press.

Ecuador reportedly began evacuating the sick, elderly and children from the town of Macara, eight kms from the border.

Ecuadorian officials also said the attack against the Lt. Hugo Ortiz border post was repelled without Ecuadorian losses.

Ecuador also said its troops intercepted a Peruvian patrol near the Cenepa River, about 350 kms southeast of Quito. The river begins in the Cordillera del Condor.

## Buildings sway as aftershock jolts Kobe; death toll over 5,000

KOBE - A mild aftershock jolted fragile highway overpasses and apartment buildings in downtown Kobe yesterday, rattling the wreckage from a massive quake that ripped through the port city eleven days ago.

The morning jolt, which measured a 3.0 magnitude, was among the largest of more than 1,000 aftershocks in the western Japanese city since the Jan. 17 earthquake. There were no reports of damage or injuries.

The aftershock swayed some of the structures already weakened in the quake, which destroyed or severely damaged about 88,000 buildings. Crews have been working to tear down the most dangerous buildings.

The death toll stood at 5,090, and 29 people were still missing. Searchers uncovered three more bodies yesterday.

The aftershock was centered 10 km below the earth's surface in eastern Hyogo prefecture, of which Kobe is the capital. It occurred at 8:12 a.m.

Fragile buildings shook as

more than 15,000 soldiers and police cleared smashed concrete in search of the people still missing from the 7.2 magnitude quake.

A team of US disaster experts is expected next week to tour areas hard hit by the quake, the second worst to hit Japan this century. The group, to leave tomorrow, will share expertise learned from last year's Los Angeles area earthquake with counterparts in Japan.

The quake left about 300,000 people homeless. Many of them are being housed in makeshift shelters in schools, government buildings and tent camps. Influenza has broken out in the crowded, chilly shelters, however, and officials are hurrying to move quake victims to temporary homes.

Many more people have been picked up and filled out applications for temporary housing units than the city plans to build.

A total of 62,000 people picked up applications for temporary housing on Friday - the first day applications were available.

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Misconduct or mistake? Attorneys in the O.J. Simpson case are bickering over what to tell the jury about the defense's failure to properly reveal its witnesses.

Prosecutors want Superior Court Judge Lance Ito to tell the jury defense attorneys committed misconduct by hiding witnesses. Simpson's team wants to tell them it just made a mistake.

Ito, who solicited the proposed admonitions Friday, will draft his own instruction before tomorrow's session when defense lawyer Johnnie Cochran Jr. is scheduled to resume his opening statement.

Ito also will decide whether to grant the prosecution's request for a 30-day delay and a chance to give another opening statement.

The wrangling is the latest legal tangle over the trial that has engrossed the American public. Simpson has pleaded innocent to murder charges in the June 12 slaying deaths of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman.

It was during Cochran's much anticipated opening statement - and his reference to about a dozen surprise witnesses - that sparked the latest fracas. His failure to share the information with prosecutors beforehand violated a state rule on the legal process known as "discovery."

Among the witnesses in ques-

tion is Mary Anne Gerchak, a Los Angeles jeweler who says she saw four men speed away from the area of the murders about the time they took place.

The battle over evidence sharing interrupted Cochran's statement Wednesday and consumed the entire court day Thursday.

In its proposed admonition, the defense said Cochran would tell jurors tomorrow that "counsel inadvertently failed to turn over to the prosecution a witness statement in its possession as the discovery rules require."

The defense admonition said the witness would not be mentioned again and proposed a standard instruction for jurors which says: "Statements made by the attorneys during the trial are not evidence."

Defense attorneys did not name the witness, but were apparently referring to Gerchak.

## Simpson case lawyers continue squabble

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - The United Nations yesterday reported a lower level of shooting in Bosnia, including Sarajevo, despite a report that international peacekeepers had suspended their mission because of truce violations in the city.

Mediators from the "contact group" on Bosnia said they had been unable to get Bosnia's warring factions back round the negotiating table after the Serbs refused to drop their objections to the latest peace plan.

Envoys of the five-nation group - Russia, the United States, Britain, Germany and France - decided to leave Bosnia, diplomats in Sarajevo said.

In Washington, State Depart-

ment spokeswoman Christine Shelly said serious violations of the ceasefire in Sarajevo had caused the mediators to suspend their mission.

But a United Nations military spokesman said the level of firing incidents in the Serb-besieged city had fallen dramatically since the ceasefire came into force on January 1.

Major Kos Sol confirmed that Serb and Moslem forces had clashed on Thursday, the night before the mediators took their decision, and that at least one rifle grenade had been found in the area.

But he said the UN in Sarajevo was now registering between 50 and 150 firing incidents a day in

the city and on surrounding front lines compared with a daily average of between 2,000 and 3,000 before the truce took hold.

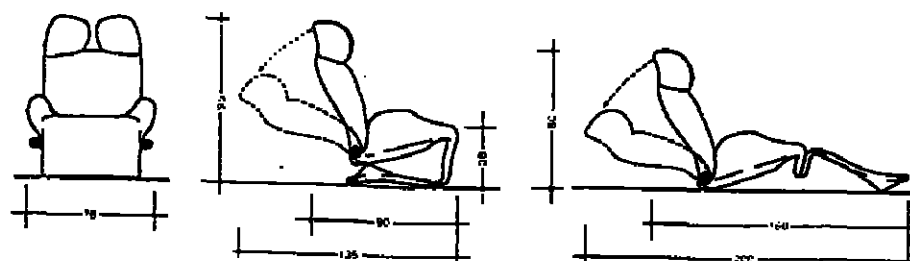
Another UN spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Gary Coward, reported isolated firing incidents registered across Bosnia except in the Bihac enclave where shelling continues outside Velika Kladusa with 21 detonations reported in the morning.

Despite the reduced level of fighting, a key stumbling block in the peace process remained the Serbs' refusal to accept the contact group's peace plan, which awards 51 percent of Bosnia to the Moslem-Croat federation and 49 percent to the Serbs who now hold 70 percent, Shelly said.

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Kinner Golan, pianist  
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## Trade war looms as China-US talks fail

BEIJING (Reuters) - Last-ditch Sino-US talks ended yesterday with no deal to curb rampant piracy of copyrights and other intellectual property in China, leaving both sides on the brink of a destructive Pacific trade war.

A foreign Trade Ministry official quoted by the Xinhua news agency said China's "ultimate efforts" and flexibility over nine days of talks in Beijing were thwarted by US intransigence. "The US side constantly escalated their bargains and when the talks were about to end, they raised many new issues totally beyond the scope of intellectual property, which led to the failure of the talks," the unidentified official said.

"We don't want to see a trade war," he added. "It is really a great pity that no agreement has been reached."

There was no immediate comment from US negotiator Lee Sands who had said the talks would last through the weekend.

Analysts said they would not be surprised if more talks took place before February 4, when Washington has threatened to slap crippling tariffs on \$2.8 billion of Chinese exports, if no deal to protect intellectual property in China is reached.

Meanwhile, senior Chinese leaders visited Deng Xiaoping at his home yesterday, but the Xinhua news agency deepened the mystery about the patriarch's declining health by failing to comment on it.

Xinhua said Deng, 90, received Lunar New Year visits

from two leaders he installed in the late 1980s to carry forth his legacy - Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng.

Xinhua said Deng "expressed happiness over the great achievements made by the people of the whole country under the leadership of the party Central Committee with Jiang Zemin at the core in the course of reform and opening-up and in the cause of building socialism with Chinese characteristics."

It was unclear from the dispatch whether Deng, who sources say was in hospital twice in recent weeks for heart problems, had actually uttered the long-winded statement.

A rain of flaming wreckage from a Chinese rocket that blew up during a satellite launch killed six people and injured 23, deepening China's trauma over its worst space disaster.

The spectacular explosion at dawn on Thursday already had cast a pall over China's biggest holiday, the Lunar New Year festival that begins on Tuesday, and shocked space officials hoping to snare a bigger slice of the world launch market.

The public was not told until late yesterday that the nationally televised disaster had also been deadly.

The official Xinhua news agency's delayed reporting of the deaths likely reflected acute official anxiety about the timing of the disclosure on the eve of the Year of the Pig.

## Italy urges nationals to leave Sierra Leone

ROME - The government yesterday urged Italian nationals to leave Sierra Leone following increased violence and a rash of kidnappings by rebels.

Six Italian nuns and a Brazilian in their order were abducted Thursday. Despite claims by the government that they had been freed, officials said the nuns still are unaccounted for.

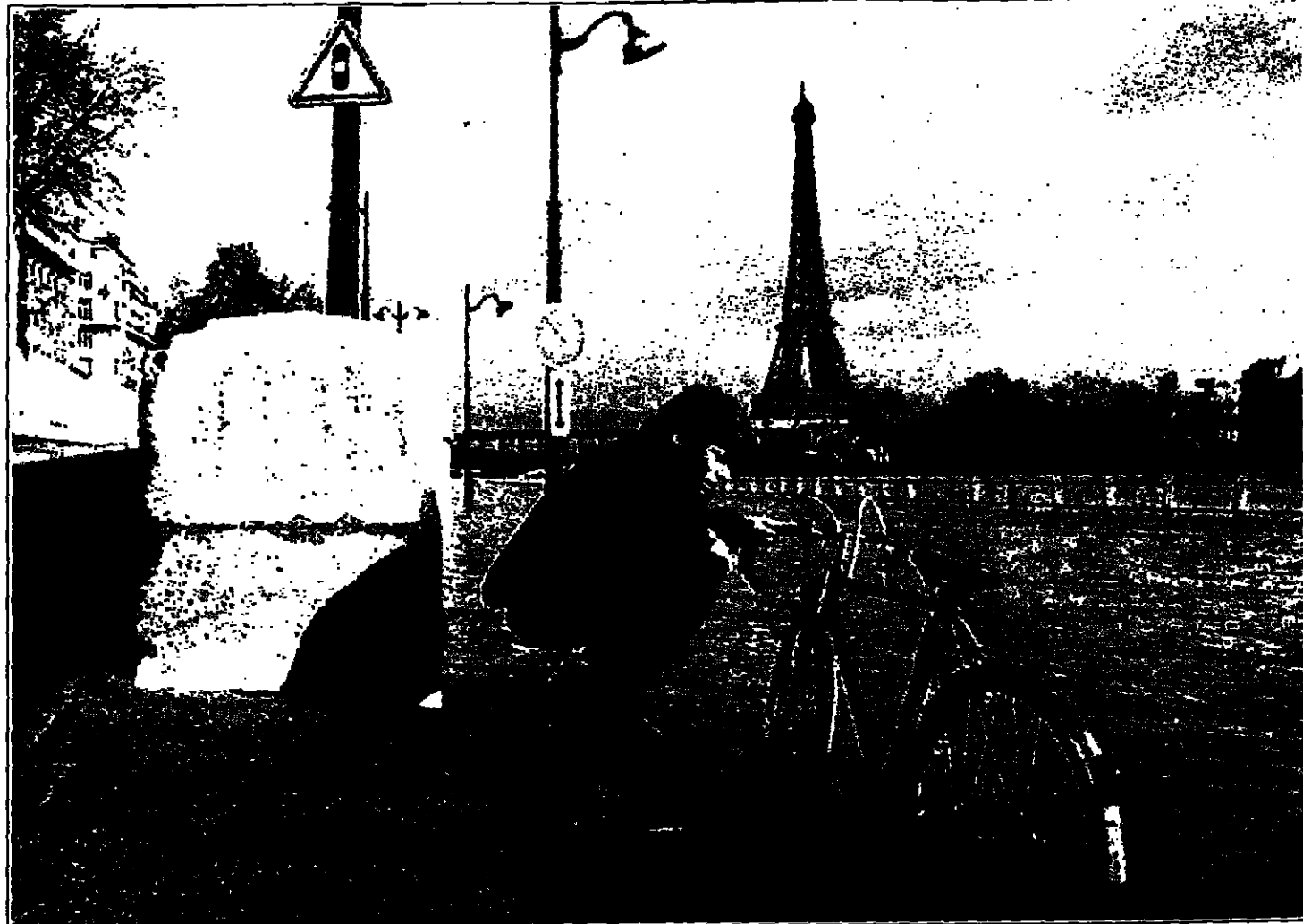
In an interview with Vatican Radio, a missionary in Sierra Leone connected to the order criticized officials for failing to seek the nuns' freedom.

"There has been no collaboration or initiative for the sisters' release on the part of local authorities, of the government," the Rev. Ennio Casali said from Freetown, the capital.

With attacks reported ever closer to the capital, the military government ordered all police and soldiers in and around Freetown to report to their units on Saturday as part of a drive to clear the area of rebel infiltrators.

Diplomats and travel agents said flights to Europe were fully booked and Middle East Airlines had laid on at least one extra flight to evacuate members of the dirt-poor country's long-established Lebanese community.

"Everyone is rushing to get out of Sierra Leone," said a spokeswoman for IPC Travel in the capital Freetown. Residents said most of those leaving were dependents of diplomats or foreigners working in Sierra Leone. (Agencies)



A boy measures the water level of the River Seine in Paris on Friday. Much of France and Germany is affected by severe flooding. (AP)

## Russia steps up bombardment of Grozny as EU envoys visit

GROZNY (AP) - Chechen separatists said yesterday that their capital came under the heaviest Russian shelling in weeks, and fighting centered on two main streets downtown.

A delegation from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe visited Russian headquarters in nearby Mordok, and Chechen fighters expressed hope the visit would ease the Russian press on Grozny.

"Last night, we had the heaviest bombardment since the New Year's Eve shelling and bombing of Grozny," Chechen information minister Movladi Udogov said.

"The Russians are using all sorts of weapons, including artillery, mortar, tanks and bombing."

Moscow's offensive on Grozny began New Year's Eve in an effort to bring breakaway Chechnya, back to the Russian fold. Its forces have relied largely on shelling and bombing to try to force the separatist fighters from the city.

"Last night the shelling was heavier than we've ever experienced before," said Tamara Magometmirzoeva, a 38-year-old nurse fighting on the Chechen side. She left the city yesterday for a day's break, but planned to return today.

In Grozny's southwestern outskirts, Russian helicopters strafed the villages of Alkhan-Yurt and Alkhan-Kala for the third consecutive day.

Udogov, wearing an Afghan beret, was waiting near the border with Ingushetia for the OSCE commission to arrive in Chechnya.

"It is of utter importance for our people that the official representatives of Europe see what is going on in Chechnya," he said.

The OSCE delegation arrived Friday in Mordok, in neighboring North Ossetia, and interviewed Chechen prisoners and Russian soldiers. The group plans to meet leaders of forces opposed to Chechen president Dzhokhar Dudayev in Znamenskoye, Chechnya.

But the ITAR-Tass news agency, cited delegation officials, as saying they did not plan to meet with representatives of Dudayev.

It was not clear whether the delegation would visit Grozny, since Russian authorities said they could

not guarantee security there. Russian and Chechen forces have accused each other of excessive brutality.

Chechen and Ingush officials accused Russian troops of indiscriminately rounding up men of fighting age and taking them to alleged detention camps. Russian officers, meanwhile, have accused the Chechens of using women and children as shields while shooting Russian soldiers in the back.

Faced with the Russians' overpowering numbers, Chechen fighters looked for hope wherever they could. One town, a year-old, was warmer temperatures - up to 10 degrees - which made it hard to pass.

"In March the Russian army will get stuck in mud," he said.

## Morocco sentences 3 terrorists to death

FEZ (Reuters) - A Moroccan court sentenced three men, two of them French nationals, to death yesterday for "acts of terrorism" including an attack on a hotel last year in which two Spanish tourists were killed.

The three, Hamel Marzouk, Redouane Hammadi and Stephane Ak Idr, are of Algerian origin. Marzouk and Ak Idr, a former fighter in Afghanistan, are French nationals.

They heard their sentences quietly then laughed and chatted with lawyers before being led away by security men wearing bullet-proof vests amid some of the tightest security seen in the ancient central city of Fez.

The three were among 17 men and one woman, all of Moroccan or Algerian origin, arrested after the attacks in 1993 and 1994 in the Moroccan cities of Fez, Marrakech, Oujda and Casablanca.

Two Spaniards, a man and a woman, died when attackers fired into the lobby of the Asma hotel in Marrakech in August 1994.

Defense lawyer Abdellah Chaouche said he would lodge an appeal at the supreme court in Rabat tomorrow.

Chaouche, a vocal human rights activist, said the death sentences were unjustified on legal grounds. He said Marzouk, accused of the attack against McDonald's restaurant in Casablanca in which a guard was wounded, did not deserve to die.

"It is not justice to condemn a young man to death for shooting at a wall," Chaouche said. "The verdict goes against the Moroccan government's supposed human rights reforms."

Another French national, Kamal Benakcha, was sentenced to life in prison along with two other accused. The woman, 19-year-old Naima Azil, was given a six-month suspended sentence and fined.

The other 11 accused men were sentenced to prison terms ranging from six months to 10 years after a 12-hour court session.

The charges included armed robbery, premeditated and attempted murder and execution of a criminal gang. The death sentence is rarely carried out in Morocco. The last execution in 1993 was the first in 20 years.

## America's Gypsies seek to improve their image

INSIDE some churches, born-again Christians joyfully sing the Lord's praises in Roman, the language of Gypsies. Behind the doors of some middle-class homes, families of Gypsies faithfully maintain the traditions of centuries past.

But this is a private life. For some it's a secret life, hidden from co-workers and associates.

An estimated 1 million of the world's 5 million Gypsies live in the United States, most unrecognized as Gypsies and quite happy to keep it that way. A long history of persecution has taught them to distrust outsiders. Half a million died in Nazi concentration camps.

But a growing number are speaking up, demanding that Gypsies be seen as something other than happy-go-lucky wanderers or thieves.

"Americans use the word Gypsy with either a negative connotation or a romantic connotation, never realizing that Gypsies are a real people with real problems," says Jud Nirenberg of Washington, D.C., who is part Gypsy and works with organizations promoting Gypsy rights.

Gypsies call themselves Roma and prefer it to the English word, which is based on the mistaken belief that they came from Egypt. Roma originated in northwest India and their language - related to Hindi - and beliefs reflect that background.

After a long migration, many Gypsies ended up in eastern Europe and some later made their way to the United States. The biggest concentrations in this country are in Southern California, the Pacific Northwest, Texas and the Northeast as well as in cities such as Chicago and St. Louis, says Ian Hancock, president of the International Roma Federation and representative at the United Nations for Gypsies worldwide.

Some of the urgency for Gypsies to speak out stems from their horror at the renewed persecution of Gypsies in eastern Europe since the fall of communism.

Some of that urgency also springs from a growing feeling that for Gypsies to improve their lives in America they need to gain some understanding, respect and even political clout. Many point jealously to the Jews as an example to be followed.

One stumbling block is that many Gypsies are poorly educated, even illiterate. Even now

many keep their children out of school or take them out before they become interested in the opposite sex.

"Jewish people educated themselves without giving up their way of life, where we didn't have the opportunity," says John Nickels, owner of an amusement park in Wildwood, N.J. "It was not considered important and that's why we're paying the price today."

Nickels now wishes his father had not taken him out of school after the fourth grade. But, he adds, "I did the same thing. I just let my kids go further." They went up to the eighth grade.

Hancock says the reason parents take their children out of school is, "put bluntly, the fear of cultural contamination." Gypsies do not want their children influenced by a culture they believe promotes drug use, low morals and violence.

Add to this that Gypsy children have had a rough time in public schools. "Sometimes it's just teasing about crystal balls, some times it's quite hostile," Hancock says.

Gypsies consider that by the time children are in their teens they are better off working with their parents to learn a trade and earn money for the family. They see little value in studying the history and ideas of an alien Western civilization.

The problem at the core is that schools promote assimilation and intermarriage.

Frank Leo of Edison, New Jersey, said children are taken out of school in their early teens because "they start fooling around with other kids and it spoils our custom." With great ceremony, some fathers still arrange marriages for their children, often when they are still teenagers, with the girl's family getting a

bride price.

Many Gypsies live a schizophrenic existence, says Hancock, an English professor at the University of Texas in Austin. "You're a Rom when you're home. When you're not, you try to pass." Some, including Hancock, have two names.

Hancock knows a Gypsy who is a commercial airline pilot and others who are lawyers in Philadelphia and Atlanta. "These guys are absolutely terrified" of being identified as Gypsies, Hancock says.

Gypsies live middle-class lives and most no longer need to travel the country looking for work, he says. They often blend in by being mistaken for people of Mexican, Greek or Italian heritage. Most are Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox Christian, faiths adopted when their ancestors lived in eastern Europe.

But, in recent years, many Gypsies across the country have been turning to Pentecostal and evangelical Christianity. Leo's brother, Steve, preaches in Roman to a congregation of 200-300 in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

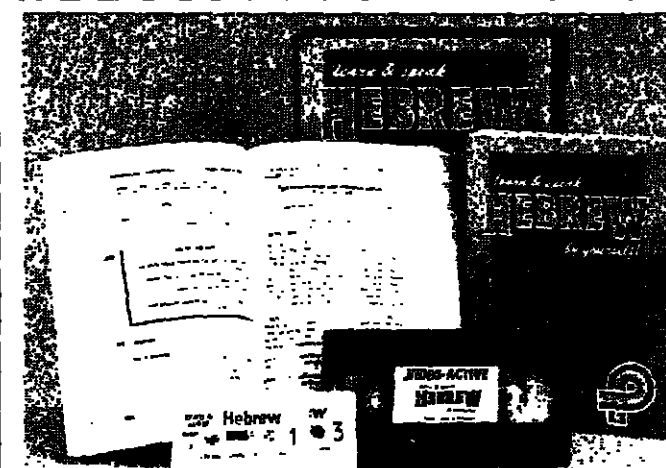
The most visible Gypsies in many communities are the fortunetellers, who often live with large families behind their storefront parlors. They tend to be some of the least assimilated.

Most Gypsies keep outsiders at arm's length.

"There is a feeling that they will turn on you, that they will let you down," Hancock says. "As far back as I can remember I thought that too, not to trust the gadje."

A person is either Romani or gadje. The clear separation between Gypsy and non-Gypsy is reflected in the language, still spoken in families that have been here for generations. (AP)

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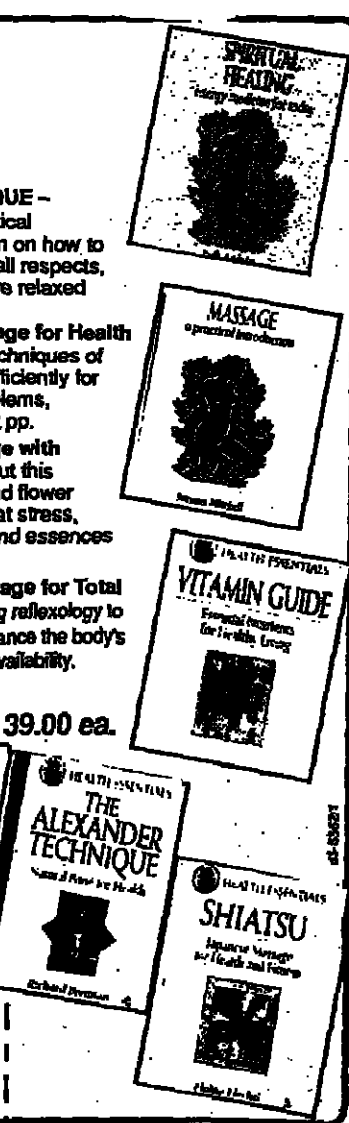
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## German communists break with past

BERLIN (Reuters) - Germany's shunned reform communists prepared to elect a chairman yesterday after turning their backs on Stalinism and putting their Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS) on the road to respectability.

Delegates at a key party congress overshadowed by a bitter row over the party's future direction voted to adopt a five-point paper defining the PDS as a far-left but democratic party with no links with Stalinism.

"For us socialism is the way, method, orientation and aim," said the paper approved by a majority of the 425 delegates. "This socialism includes the highest measure of democracy and liberalism."

The rejection of Stalinism was a victory for the moderate PDS leaders Lothar Bisky and Gregor Gysi, who had threatened to quit if the policy paper they had helped to write failed to be given the green light by the congress.

סניא מילר



## Computer map makes digs easier

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JERUSALEMITES are always infuriated when employees of the municipality, Bezek or the Electric Corporation dig up and then repave their sidewalks and streets within months of each other instead of working simultaneously. Now the three have signed a deal to produce a computerized map of the city's infrastructure and coordinate among themselves to reduce expenses and needless digging.

Aerial photos and existing data on telephone and electric lines, as well as water, drainage and sewage pipes will be computerized in a single data bank and updated regularly. Every planner will thus be able to know exactly what infrastructure he will find below ground for a certain spot.

Computerized mapping of infrastructure was initiated by Bezek two years ago for the Tel Aviv Municipality: Ramat Gan, Kfar Sava, Givatayim, Mitzpe Ramon, Hurfeish and others soon followed. Now the Public Works Department, the Israel Lands Administration, the Airports Authority and the Ports and Railways Authority have expressed an interest in such mapping projects.

The Jerusalem project will cost NIS 4.7 million, with half to be covered by the municipality and the rest split equally by Bezek and the Electric Corporation.

### ISDN PHONE

Telrad has introduced a telephone of a "new generation" - Kachav 400 - suited to an integrated services digital network (ISDN). The digital phone, meant for the business sector, combines voice and data (including a computerized phone book), telemarketing and networking capacity and automatic routing of calls. The phone, which includes an eight-line screen, is a unique device developed by Telrad engineers. The company believes it will be very popular here and abroad and has set up a network of 160 distributors from coast to coast in the U.S. Foreign sales of Kachav 400 are expected to reach \$15 million in 1995.

### SMART BOTTLE CAP REMINDS PATIENT

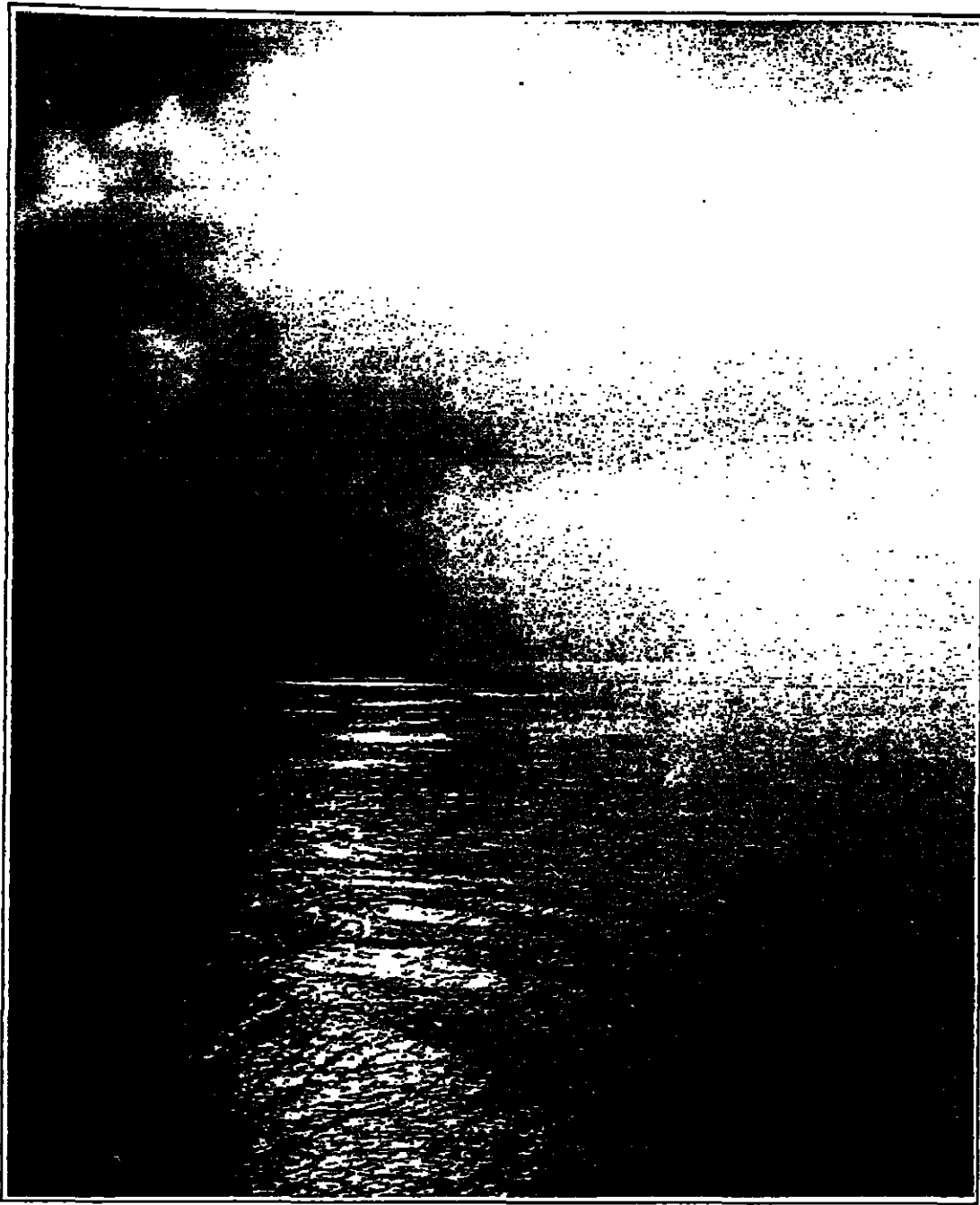
Do you forget to take your medicine? Now the pill container will remind you. A tiny computer embedded in the caps of drug bottles is designed to solve one of medicine's most vexing problems: patients who don't take their prescription medication. The SmartCap, made by Apex Corp. in California's Silicon Valley, beeps when it's time to take one's pills, and counts how many times the cap is removed each day and at what time. The information is shown by a digital read-out on the cap. Every night, the patient places the bottle on top of a small computer modem, which transmits the daily dosage times over a toll-free telephone line to Apex. If the drug wasn't taken properly, an Apex staffer phones the patient. At the end of the month, Apex will mail a printout of the dosages to the patient's doctor. US health insurers are expected to welcome the system as a way of cutting costs and making patients healthier. Numerous US medical studies have shown patients' failure to take drugs costs the health care system tens of billions of dollars a year, resulting in unnecessary medical tests, operations and deaths. The leading cause of kidney transplant rejection in that country is that patients don't take their immunosuppressant drugs regularly; a kidney that's rejected can cost almost \$250,000.

"We're not Big Brother. And we're not going to nag. What we're going to do is help people take their medication as they should," said Apex chairwoman Janice Wohltmann. The service costs \$75 a month and is for patients who have chronic illnesses. Of course the SmartCap is smart enough to know only if patients open the bottle - not if they actually take the pills.

### BOOKS & 'BOOKS' AT JERUSALEM FAIR

A truce has been declared in the battle between the book and electronic publishing industries: both will be represented, side by side, at Jerusalem's 17th International Book Fair, which opens in March at the International Convention Center.

In addition to some 1,000 book publishers, large local and foreign companies that produce electronic books and multimedia diskettes and CD-ROMs will be there as well. The fair organizers expect some 20 companies of this type to have booths.



The angle of the earth's axis, as the earth follows an elliptical course around the sun, affects the amount of daylight and where the sun appears to set. (David Brauner)

## Mysteries of the setting sun

TELL ME WHY

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

CAN you tell me why the sun sets at a different place during the various seasons of the year? And does it set at a different place even when viewed from the equator? Tami, Hadera.

I live in the Mediterranean Towers in Bat Yam; my windows face directly north. During the summer, the sun shines into my living room in the morning and evening. I can see the sun in the northeast in the morning and the southwest in the evening and during the day mostly straight ahead. But to see the sun, shouldn't I have to look to the south throughout the year? Greta, Bat Yam.

Prof. Zvi Piran of the Hebrew University's astrophysics department answers both questions:

Both of you are asking about the same phenomenon: that which causes the seasons of the year. The earth revolves around the sun in an elliptical course while rotating on its axis at an angle of about 23 degrees. This angle gives the northern hemisphere more hours of exposure to the sun during its summer, and the southern hemisphere fewer hours of exposure to the sun's rays.

The amount of daylight is exactly 12 hours on March 21 and September 21 in the northern hemisphere; on these days, the sun seems to rise exactly in the east and to set exactly in the west. The sun sets farther to the north in the summer, when there are more daylight hours than in the winter.

In the summer, the sun rises in the northeast and sets in the northwest; so even facing north, you can see it in the morning and evening. At the equator, however, there are exactly 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness throughout the year.

Why does running water tend to give people the urge to urinate?

Rachel, Ramat Gan.

Dr. Yehuda Oppenheim, a psychiatrist at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital.

The urge to urinate when you hear running water is like your mouth starting to salivate when you smell food. Each time a young child "urinate," he or she hears the sound of the urine flowing. This sound, which is like the sound of running water, becomes associated in the child's mind with the relaxation of the muscles at the neck of the bladder that allows urination to begin. Eventually, the sound of running water automatically triggers that muscle relaxation. This is called a conditioned reflex. Turning on a tap and letting the water run may help an older person who has trouble urinating.

Rabbi Zvi Teichman of Jerusalem comments on the last column's answer regarding why people say "gesundheit" following a sneeze:

Chapter 52 of Pirkei Rabbi Eliezer, the earliest-known Talmudic text, records that this custom dates back to our forefather Jacob. According to the text, until Jacob's intervention, people would literally "expire" with a sudden sneeze, in a reversal of the process of coming to life described in Genesis ("And he breathed into his nostrils a soul of life"). Jacob prayed that, to afford man time to settle his affairs, illness should precede death. In commemoration of this wondrous change of events, we bless those who sneeze with long life and good health (that is, gesundheit).

M.N. Friedrich, a glass technologist in Haifa, comments on

Prof. Rina Reisfeld's explanation of why Duralux glass shatters into a million pieces:

Duralux is but one of many commercial brands of tableware made of "toughened" glass. Like the toughened glass of car windshields, it is made of the same materials as ordinary glass, and is homogeneous. Thus, its shattering is not due to its being a mixture of different substances, as in the case of ceramics, or to its chemical composition, but solely to physical properties arising from an added step in the manufacturing process.

After the final shaping of the glass, the surface is chilled - from 630°C to room temperature - by an abrupt burst of compressed cool air. Cooling makes substances contract. The surface of the glass contracts, but only minimally, because it "solidifies" instantly. Because the thermal conductivity of glass is low, the core cools - and "solidifies" - more slowly than the surface does; and the core's "attempts" to contract as it cools are stymied because it is "stuck" to the surface.

The core's lasting "attempt" to contract, and the fact that it is stymied, creates energy, but the two forces remain in equilibrium. This equilibrium makes toughened glass about seven times stronger than ordinary glass. But a strong impact disturbs the equilibrium and releases the energy. This causes the shattering and sends the pieces flying.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer. Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, c/o Jerusalem Post Science & Technology Reporter Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, 91000 Jerusalem, or fax it to (02) 389527. Please include your first name and place of residence. Calls will not be accepted.

## Life in the 21st century: Just a connection away

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

VISITORS to the Israel Information Processing Association exhibition in Jerusalem 10 days ago felt as if they were already in the 21st century.

There were virtual-reality displays, computers that conduct job interviews and software that gives telemarketing salesmen personal information on their potential customers.

At the AT&T display, passers-by plunked down into rows of cinema-style seats to watch a movie that was more science than fiction - a female executive videoconferences with colleagues around the globe using a calendar-sized display on her desk.

A young Frenchman asks her husband for their daughter's hand in marriage - he doesn't speak English, but a computer simultaneously translates the message through the videoconference machine.

But one was jolted back into reality by bumping into computer sales personnel walking - or running - through the Jerusalem International Convention Center's aisles while talking on their cellular phones.

What personal computers were to the 1980s, instantaneous connections among computers that mix live video, text and telephone sound will be to the late '90s and early 21st century. It will change our life-styles in ways not yet contemplated.

"From today, you can do anything from your armchair at home," touted TV-Tel, the communications system soon to be introduced here on the model of France's Minitel.

A year-long experiment involving 500 Petah Tikva families has resulted in plans for a nationwide service to be provided by the Israel Information Superhighway company, a partnership of Tadiran and Elbit.

Subscribers will get a small computer terminal, complete with high-speed modem, which will provide information and services in easy Hebrew.

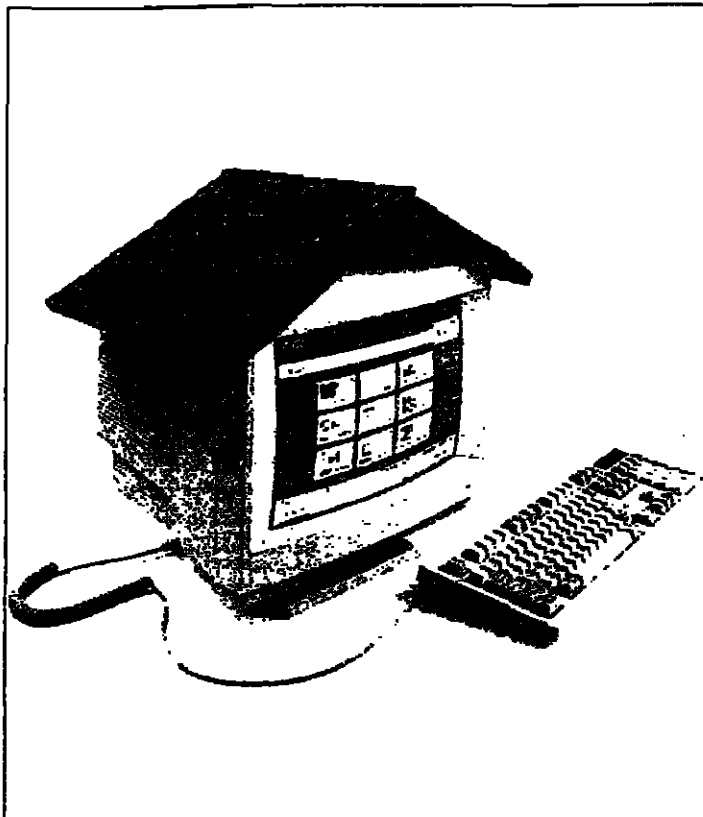
Using the TV-Tel, people will be able to buy books (if they are still reading them by then), order tickets to the theater (if video-on-demand doesn't make them stay-at-homes), play computer games, link up with Internet, go over their bank accounts and stock portfolio and be updated on their astrological charts.

All this business can be carried out simultaneously on a single phone line without interfering with incoming and outgoing calls.

Who needs telephonists any more? IVR (interactive voice response) is increasingly replacing them. The computerized systems answer customers' queries automatically on the first ring around the clock. By pressing buttons on their digital phone, customers are routed to the source of the precise information they require by voice or fax.

These systems, according to MLL Computers, "are designed to operate with virtually no human intervention.... During the day, callers can be routed to a (human) company representative if they prefer; during nonworking hours, personal messages can be automatically deposited in a representative's voice box for handling the next day."

Bezdek already allows you to know who's calling: don't pick up the receiver if you want to avoid bill collectors or an ordinary nunk. A special phone and software costs \$250. The phone's digital display shows the number of the caller; if the number appears in the phone book, the LCD (liquid-crystal diode) display may show his name, profession and address as well.



Soon-to-be-introduced TV-Tel will allow people to order books and theater tickets and go over their bank accounts, at home.

und-crystal diode) display may show his name, profession and address as well.

"Telepathy" is a new product of Dvash Software Systems to ease the job of telemarketers who try to sell products or services over the phone. Full names, addresses, phone numbers and (often) professions listed in regular phone books have been put in a data bank that allows them to find, for example, all architects living in Tel Aviv or doctors in Beersheba.

Telemarketers can thus address a selected group of potential clients who, when called, think the salesperson really is endowed with telepathy.

Over 200 local companies use a computer program from the Maltam software company in Tel Aviv to sift unsuitable candidates for job slots.

Based on questionnaires developed abroad and claimed to give an accurate prediction of the applicant's abilities, the software tests not only typing speed and marketing skills but also reliability and other personality traits.

Company representatives said this does not come instead of a personal interview of serious candidates, but can help weed out applicants who are not qualified or consistent.

The program can be adapted to a special profession to test abilities needed for a certain type of work. A different Maltam program, costing \$1,900, can be used to train new employees for their job.

One of the exhibition booths was manned by a 14-member delegation from the Jordan Computer Society in the hope of making business deals with their Israeli counterparts.

They attracted much interest, and the Jordanians were sure it would lead to actual business ties. "We have been very encouraged by the response," said Hatem Zeine, technical manager of the Jordan Computer Society, which is the counterpart in Amman of the Israel Information Processing Association.

The Jordanian society has some 275 computer companies as members.

The nonprofit Center for Jewish-Arab Economic Development in Tel Aviv and the El-Hayat International Trading Group in Amman were responsible for bringing over the first-ever delegation of prominent high-tech business representatives from Jordan.

The Tel Aviv center was founded in 1988 to promote economic development in the Israeli Arab community.

Today, in consonance with the peace process, it is using its development experience to create economic ties among Israelis, Palestinians, Jordanians and Egyptians, according to David Lipschultz, one of the center's representatives.

According to Bezdek director-general Yitzhak Kaul, calling abroad will eventually cost no more than calling across the street. As time passes, he explains, technology will cancel out the cost factor of distance, and consumers will benefit from lower rates.

The Israel Information Processing Association comprises 200 local companies and some 5,000 professionals in the field of computer communications and telecommunications.

A main feature of the convention was a discussion of asynchronous transmission mode (ATM), which allows the speedy transfer of all types of information (voice, video and data) over optic fibers.

The formation of the Israel Internet Society was announced during the three-day conference; some 30,000 Israelis are already linked to Internet via 9,600 personal computers.

After Japan, Israel is only the second country outside the US to establish a national Internet society; 82 countries are connected to the computer network, with an estimated 30 million users worldwide. Experts say the amount of information that passes through Internet in one hour is equivalent to 22 million books.

## IDF doctors come to the rescue of civilians

HEALTH SCAN

POST HEALTH REPORTER

EQUIPPING IDF doctors with advanced trauma life support (ATLS) equipment and giving them special training can save lives on the roads. An experimental program involving 50 Medical Corps doctors has resulted in the rescue of victims of road accidents, heart attacks and terrorist outrages.

Medical Corps researchers report on the experiment, which began two years ago, in the latest issue of *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association. All the doctors kept the equipment in their cars and came across the victims by chance while driving. Seven of 31 who answered a questionnaire had actually used the equipment on victims; most of the incidents were road accidents, but 17 others were wounded by terrorist attacks and three suffered heart attacks.

The IDF doctors reached the scene even before Magen David Adom teams were alerted. Since immediate treatment of trauma greatly increases the chances of survival, this speed was important in saving lives, the researchers concluded.

Although experts can resuscitate victims without any special equipment, having ATLS kits at their disposal significantly increases the likelihood of survival. The kit was designed for adults and children over the age of 10; the researchers recommended included equipment sized for younger children as well. Each kit costs NIS 3,000.

### MOUTH TISSUE USED FOR PENIS CORRECTION

Mucous membranes taken from the inside of the lower lip have successfully corrected hypospadias, an inherited defect affecting 200 to 300 newborn baby boys a year, in which the urinary opening is on the underside of the penis.

Three such operations at Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem are believed to be the first such procedures in Israel. Dr. Hezi Landau, a Hadassah urologist, learned the technique at the Children's Hospital in Canada, where he went for training. Landau said the defect occurs in about half a percent of all baby boys.

In some cases, in which urine exits near the tip, the defect is mild, but in others, the hole is near the scrotum. This can interfere not only with normal urination but also prevent intercourse.

A "new" urethra has to be built because the one the baby was born with is too short, says Landau, who performed the surgery along with plastic surgeons Dr. Avraham Neuman, Dr. Avraham Weinberg and Dr. Eldad Mor. The best tissue for this is the foreskin; thus babies born with this defect do not undergo ritual circumcision. But if the first operation

using foreskin tissue fails, doctors need to rebuild the urethra again. Skin was used in the past, but this caused difficulties because hair grows and the vessel tends to narrow. Tissue from the bladder was also tried, but since it is not naturally in contact with air, infections were liable to occur.

Taking tissue from the inside of the mouth has been found to be ideal, because it exists naturally in a nonsterile location and is not prone to infections; and the mouth's recuperation is very quick, allowing the patient to drink the day after the surgery.

The first three operations were successful, and two more boys are due to undergo the procedure within a month.

### NOT ONLY HEREDITARY

The Health Ministry is considering the possibility of conducting a nationwide study of blood-cholesterol levels in children, following a study funded by the office of ministry chief scientist Prof. Michael Silberman.

The study, by Assaf Harofeh Hospital doctors, found that the parents of half the 809 children with high blood cholesterol did not have a cholesterol problem themselves. It is commonly believed that the tendency for high cholesterol is passed on genetically.

Early detection of high cholesterol is important, and the Assaf Harofeh researchers recommended that the ministry conduct a much larger survey of children around the country to locate those with high levels.



Tuesday, October 10.  
Succot, 1995



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Telephone 315666, Telex 26121, Fax 389527. CIRCULATION - 315610. Fax 389017. ADVERTISING - 315608, 315637-40. Fax 388408. TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasger, POB 28398 (61283) Telephone 6390333, Fax 6390277. HAIFA: 19 Nordau, Hader Hacarmel, Telephone 627124. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. & The Jerusalem Post 1994. Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, or any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS

## What Dennis Ross rejects

DENNIS Ross, Secretary of State Warren Christopher's special assistant who heads the American peace-talks team, has been contributing his diplomatic skill and considerable experience to advancing the negotiations with Syria. Having had a similar position in the Bush-Baker administration, Ross probably knows more about the personalities involved than virtually anyone.

Interviewed by Ya'acov Ahimeir of Israel Television on Friday, he gave all the answers one expects from an administration official. Although reluctant to intervene in Israel's domestic politics, he endorsed Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin with the kind of extravagant praise Washington reserves for foreign leaders who follow the administration's suggested policies. Achieving "comprehensive peace" in the Middle East - Hafez Assad's code words for total Israeli withdrawal, now adopted by the administration - is a primary goal in Washington. And as long as Rabin seems to be going in the right direction to achieve it, he'll be a favorite of the White House and State Department.

If there was anything startling in the interview, it was Ross's answer to the last question. Mentioning that Rabin wanted to include Iraq as a participant in the "comprehensive peace," Ahimeir wanted to know what Ross thought of the idea. It is an eminently reasonable question: if the region is to have a truly comprehensive peace, the Iraqis cannot be ignored.

The Arab states seem to agree. After the recent Alexandria summit, Egypt's Hosni Mubarak, Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, and Syrian dictator Hafez Assad announced in an official communiqué they had discussed "how to integrate Iraq into the Arab camp to confront Israel." Clearly, leaving Iraq out of the talks would make a travesty of the hope for lasting peace. True, despite Iraqi overtures to Israel, its dictator Saddam Hussein marked the fourth anniversary of the "Mother of all Wars" by stating "Iraq has the right to ask which Arab country will launch the 40th missile against Israel."

But, as both Washington and Jerusalem seem to agree, peace is made with enemies. It was not too long ago that today's peace partner Yasser Arafat bragged that he would arrive in Jerusalem astride an Iraqi missile. Moreover, Iraq is not a minor power like Jordan; it must be reckoned with. After suppressing a rebellion in the south by killing 50,000 Shi'ites - gullible peasants who took then-president George Bush's word seriously and mutinied against Saddam expecting American help - the regime is again fully in control of the country. The Shi'ite imams have reconciled with Baghdad, and Saddam has not only been paying their salaries on time but repairing the mosques of Karbala, known as the third holiest place in Islam.

Moreover, as if to mock all the Western and

Israeli experts who supported Saddam against Iran in the 1980s in the assumption he was the secular force that could stop the wave of Islamic fundamentalism, the Iraqi dictator has turned into a strict Islamic ruler. He has shut down Baghdad's night clubs, forbidden women to appear with makeup in public, and instructed the newspapers to support these and similar restrictions designed "to combat the country's moral deterioration."

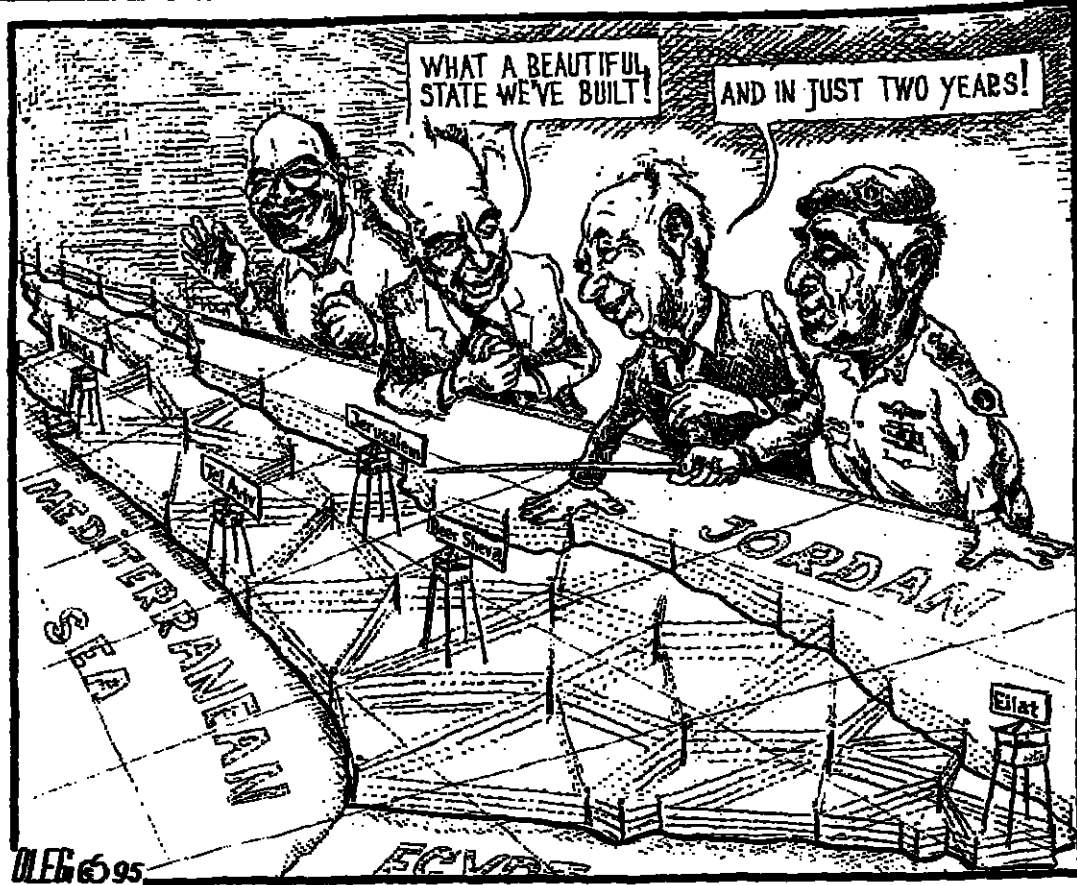
Needless to say, Saddam's newly acquired concept of religious morality does not cover non-conventional warfare. Iraq continues to develop chemical and biological warfare capabilities - areas in which no inspection can be fully exhaustive - and experts believe that if Saddam is unable to produce nuclear weapons in the near future, he will have no trouble buying them.

There is little doubt that despite the hardships suffered by Iraqis as a result of the sanctions, Iraq will soon return to its past power. France has already resumed diplomatic relations with Baghdad, and it is doubtful that the US and Britain, the last holdouts for continued international sanctions, will be able to resist the ever increasing pressure from the Europeans, Russia, and China to remove the blockade.

Perhaps the most persuasive argument against sanctions is not that Iraq has implemented most of the UN resolutions, including the recognition of Kuwait's borders. It is that the former members of the anti-Saddam coalition have reached the startling conclusion that if he is overthrown, his successor will not be Thomas Jefferson.

That is why it was strange to hear Ross's reply to Ahimeir's question. He said, "No, I don't think Saddam should join the process. He is not a man one can trust." Coming from one of the leading American architects of the current peace process, the statement can only mean that Arafat and Assad are men Washington and Israel can trust, despite the striking similarities between them and the Iraqi dictator. Surely Ross must know that in the two areas Saddam has distinguished himself most - committing atrocities and violating contracts - both Arafat and Assad can give him stiff competition. Neither has kept a single signed agreement, and each has committed some of the most heinous crimes of the post-World War II years.

For some Israelis, the unease created by this remark is exacerbated by the memory of the patronizing lectures about Saddam delivered by such friends of Israel as Republican Senator Robert Dole and Democrat Howard Mudd in the spring of 1990. Saddam Hussein, they said, is a Western-oriented, pragmatic, and realistic Arab leader who wants peace with Israel. Only an obdurate, intransigent government would refuse to negotiate with him, they sternly added. It would be unforgivable, they said, if Israel missed this historic window of opportunity for peace.



## The Church as boss

HAS Israel abdicated its sovereignty over Christian holy places by allowing Christian groups to visit without Israeli guides?

Father Claudio Baratto says not (Letters, January 3).

Baratto is convinced that the sovereignty of the State of Israel is limited by "natural rights, historic and religious, that set reasonable limits to the exercise of the sovereignty." Implicitly he regards the Church, and not Israel, as the true owner of the Holy Land.

If Israel were to give in to all similar claims (church, Wakf, Palestinian), it would reduce itself to an administrative framework serving all these non- (or, too often, anti-) Jewish powers. If this "does not, in any way infringe on the sovereignty of the State of Israel," as Baratto says, one wonders what would.

It sounds like the revival of medieval attitudes toward the "Holy Land" and the Jews. Whatever the Israeli government wants, the Church is the boss. Is this in the spirit of the Israel-Vatican accord?

By law, any tour group traveling in the country has to hire a government-licensed tour guide. An Israeli license can only be obtained after two years of study.

However, due to international political pressure, and out of fear of losing potential tourists, the government has made an exception for Franciscans. The Pilgrims Office is permitted to issue "green cards" to clergy who guide pilgrims to holy sites.

Time and again there is malpractice in the execution of this ad hoc agreement. In recent years Israel has been flooded by groups from every country and every branch of Christianity, guided by clerics with green cards.

These cards are even handed out through foreign-based tour operators who plan tours of the country with no religious content at all.

The request for a green card is supposed to be countersigned by one's bishop. Protestant churches in Holland have no bishops, but pastors of my Protestant church can easily obtain a green card, even when the request has been neither made nor signed by the moderator.

Green cards were granted specifically to guides conducting tours of holy sites. Their holders now have declared all Israel to be one holy site. Sometimes their

### CHAIM COHEN STUART

visits to synagogues betray a lack of respect for the Jewish religion.

Among green-card holders are key personalities in Church bodies that promote "Jewish-Christian understanding."

But how can Jews enter into dialogue with those who violate Israeli law, and whose theology holds the Church, and not the State of Israel, to be the real owner of the Holy Land?

THE MINISTRY of Tourism is aware of this abuse of green cards, but overlooks it. Thus, implicitly, it supports the Christian denial of Israel's right to exist.

The ministry is also aware of an antisemitic publication by a Dutch tour operator which offers a one-week training course for its

Abuse of the system allowing some clergy to guide pilgrims around holy sites is a statement about who really owns the Holy Land

own "guides" - although its only "religious" objective is to earn more money in Holland. The tour operator increases his profit by not hiring an Israeli licensed guide.

Registered letters on this issue addressed to Tourism Minister Uzi Baran have either gone unanswered, or been met with the response: "We have to respect the pilgrim's beliefs."

Christians who really want to visit Israel do so anyway. And many of those taken around by a licensed tour guide return. It isn't the Christian tourist who doesn't want an Israeli guide.

Green-card holders often lack any real knowledge of Israel, and continue the age-old tradition of teaching contempt for the Jews and for Judaism.

Baratto claims that guiding by "religious Christian assistants" is, in addition to a material gain, an enhancement of the image of the country and a benefit, even if it does not apply to Israeli guides and their association.

This smells of the traditional, antisemitic allegation of the Jewish money-grubber. Green-card

holders are not only stealing the bread out of the mouths of licensed tour guides; they are breaking Israeli law.

Israeli guides often hear green-card holders misrepresenting religious, historical and political facts. It shocks them, for most Israeli guides love their country with its rich history, its biblical and historic sites, its nature, cultures, and religious plurality.

All too often must they deal with aggressive Christian missionaries and suffer antisemitic insults from tourists, or from the Christian or Moslem guardians of holy sites.

As a non-Jew (with a Jewish family name), I experienced most of these abuses within my first three months of working here as a government certified guide.

During my two years of study at the School of Tourism, I was asked by a friendly Roman Catholic priest whether it is true that guides are taught to ridicule Christianity and Islam. Nothing could be further from the truth.

As a scholar of religion and a protestant pastor, I can testify to the fair treatment of both these religions. We were taught to respect both their adherents and their beliefs. Indeed, my non-observant Jewish fellow-students complained, quite rightly, that the course on Jewish tradition was insufficient to deal with questions about the Jewish roots of Christianity.

Every future Israeli guide is taught never to debate religion or politics during a tour.

Israeli guides do not want to infringe on the religious rights of Christians. Leaders and members of the many Christian groups that are not prejudiced against Jewish guides are usually impressed by their extensive knowledge, including familiarity with the New Testament.

Israeli guides give Christian groups and clergy every opportunity to perform their religious services, and to teach and read relevant biblical passages.

If the Vatican-Israeli accord was meant to signal acceptance of the rule of the State of Israel within its internationally accepted borders, the green card system ought to be discontinued.

In utilizing highly qualified and motivated Israeli tour guides, the Roman Catholic Church would be the main beneficiary.

The writer was formerly theological adviser to the Netherlands Reform Church and a tour guide.

## Peace then

ED GLASER

IT all began, half a century ago, in early 1945, with a dream.

"Herzl! Herzl!" the voice called out.

Professor Herzl H. Herzl had fallen asleep in his office at the Department of Creative Diplomacy. He had been working long into the night for weeks trying to find a formula to prevent the imminent collapse of the peace process.

"Herzl! This is your great-grandfather, Theodor, speaking to you. Listen carefully. Read my speeches from the 1903 Zionist Congress. They have the answer to your problem."

The sonorous voice faded and the bearded visage of Theodor Herzl, the father of modern Zionism, was no more.

Prof. Herzl awoke. He did hours of research. Then he found the answer. "Thank you, great-grandfather Theodor," he called out in the empty office. After three days of intensive work, he had crafted the plan that would bring peace to the Middle East.

Prof. Herzl met secretly with the policy-formulating bodies of the major political parties and then with the party leaders. Everyone was amazed at the clarity of his political vision.

### It was separation - with a vengeance

One month later, the world watched on TV as the second Madrid Conference was convened. Kings, presidents and other heads of state attended, as well as representatives of the Palestine self-rule authority. Security was unprecedented since the leaders of all the Arab terrorist organizations were also in attendance.

Everything went like clockwork - as all the delegations signed their names to the Uganda-Israel Option.

EVERY STUDENT of world peace knows the multilateral agreement by heart, but here is a short summary of its essential points:

1. Uganda would be partitioned - a portion of its territory to become the New Israel, equivalent in size to the pre-1967 borders of the old Israel. It would be populated by those residents of the old Israel who wished to live in a Jewish state.

Those who refused would be offered immediate citizenship in the US or Western Europe. As expected, most of the "refuseniks" opted for American or German citizenship.

2. The G-7 industrialized nations agreed to pay for building cities in the new Jewish national homeland: New Tel Aviv, New Haifa and even New Jerusalem - though the Arab side only reluctantly agreed to the use of this name.

3. An international fund was endowed by the wealthy, peace-loving countries to guarantee that all Ugandans, on reaching the age of 18, would be assured a \$10,000 annual salary for life - as compensation for the loss of a portion of their country.

The Arabs undertook to guarantee that the reduced Uganda would be forever free of terrorist activity. (Incidentally, this arrangement has made Uganda the safest country on earth, protected from the increasing burden of world terrorism, which has plagued us so successfully in the 21st century.)

4. Certain elements, however, maintained an inexplicable sentimental attachment to particular geographical sites.

Prof. Herzl's brilliant solution involved dismantling the Western Wall and reassembling it in the New Jerusalem, together with a representative sample of stones from other sites, such as the Machpelah Cave and Rachel's Tomb.

It was truly an idea whose time had come. Finally a solution had been found for the insoluble problem. Naturally everyone applauded when Prof. Herzl was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for five consecutive years, 1995-1999.

(Note: Only last week, the leader of Hamas had invited the aging Prof. Herzl to be the first Jew to visit Al-Kuds in the 50 years since the completion of the agreement.)

The writer is a frequenter.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### TIME TO PARDON POLLARD

Sir, - I watched the interview of Aldrich Ames which was presented on December 27 on CNN. At no time did Ames show any feeling, any compassion, any regard, any remorse for the American agents he betrayed and who lost their lives because of this betrayal.

I was surprised that Jonathan Pollard was not mentioned during the interview. From the time that Pollard was arrested until the time of Ames's arrest the government has contended that the mole in our government was Jonathan Pollard. Caspar Weinberger and Les Aspin even accused Pollard of transmitting secrets to the Soviets from his solitary confinement cell in our country's toughest and most secure prison in Marion, Illinois.

We know that Pollard pleaded guilty to passing secrets to our only friend in the Middle East, Israel. He did so after Bobby Inman, who at the time was No. 2 man in the CIA, cut off Israel from promised defensive information at retaliation for Israel's destruction of Iraq's nuclear reactors. Can you imagine the number of American soldiers who would have died in the Persian Gulf had Israel not taken that action?

For passing secrets to the Soviets when they were implacable enemies of the US and for compromising the lives of American agents, Aldrich Ames is in Allenwood Prison, a country club compared to any of the three prisons in which Jonathan Pollard has been placed.

At this point, it is obvious that the reason that Weinberger, Aspin, Inman and the entire state and defense departments are against Jonathan Pollard's release is because they do not want to admit their errors, their incompetence.

It is time to pardon Jonathan Pollard. SIDNEY L. GLAUSER Philadelphia.

### SHAM PEACE

Sir, - I watched with dread as Prime Minister Rabin repeated the current government's well-rehearsed response to latest tragedy at Beit Lid: "We shall not let the opponents of peace triumph, we shall continue the current 'peace process.'" However, the truth is, that it is precisely the opponents of peace who will triumph if the present government's capitulation is allowed to continue.

Forcing Israel to pre-1967 indefensible borders with a newly created state of Palestine at its border is a sure recipe for terror, on a scale never imagined. This is the inevitable conclusion to the Oslo process. Moreover, a Palestinian state will never be able to sustain itself economically given both its boundaries, and the complete failure of the PA to establish even the rudimentary financial disciplines required to receive the massive funds pledged in good faith by the world community to date.

Dare we be so naive as to believe that a newly created Palestine, headed by Chairman Arafat, is not going to become a safe haven for a wave of terrorism unprecedented in scope designed to "liberate the rest of Israel-Palestine." What semblance of authority and stability has been instituted in Gaza and Jericho?

Has the PA extradited the murderers of Uri Megidish? Has the PLO charter calling for the elimination of the State of Israel been revoked? Have Arafat and company really lifted a hand to stop the killing of innocent Israelis? And thousands of terrorists are being set free.

This "peace plan" has proven to be a sham. At this point, let us face the facts, concede it is a failure, and continue to talk only from a position of strength.

JOSEPH HADDAD Efrat.

### PAINFUL REMINDER

Sir, - Nine Squared is turning out to be less popular than the TV program planners predicted, as would appear evident from the fact of its having been switched from its peak-viewing slot of 9 to 7:30 p.m. I would hazard a guess that the lower than hoped-for viewing figures might be unconnected with the merits of the game, which is, after all, both educational and entertaining, but more with a reluctance on the part of the viewing public to see a senior PLO official participating in the game - and one, moreover, who calls repeatedly for a continuation of the intifada.

With the tension in our lives, we Israelis need occasionally to be allowed to enjoy pure escapism entertainment without being forcibly reminded of the existence of a terrorist organization which has failed totally to convince us that it does not look upon the destruction of Israel as its raison d'être. RHONA YEMINI Givatayim.

### TENDENTIOUS HEADLINE

Sir, - I read with amazement your reprint from Ma'ariv of Nadav Ha'etzi's interview with Rabbi Edo Elia (January 18). The headline you conferred on it was: "Elia: Halacha permits killing of innocent Arabs." Now The Jerusalem Post knows well enough that large headlines bearing such a message carry at least as much weight as the subsequent reservation expressed by Nadav Ha'etzi. Moreover, people read in a hurry, and the headline is what stays in the mind.

I believe it was highly unprofessional of you to allow such a headline. DENNIS SILK Jerusalem.

The Post should have been more careful. - Ed. J.P.



January 29, 1995

Andy Rooney

## The Following Things Are True

The following things are true: — We say "the phone is ringing" even though the sound a telephone makes is no longer a ring.

— American cars are better than they were 10 years ago.

— Any speaker who uses a chart and a pointer is dull.

— Restaurants seem to have stopped serving carrots mixed with peas the way they used to.

— A lot of things that are good to have, aren't worth the space they take.

— Kids don't eat chocolate ice cream sodas or malteds much anymore.

— The trouble with 12-ounce cans of Coke or Pepsi is you have to drink the whole can or throw some of it away.

— The erasers on a lot of lead pencils are hard and unusable.

— The people behind the wheels of commercial vans are the worst drivers.

— Elastic bands are one of the greatest inventions of all time.

— You don't see many people rowing boats anymore.

— When you're at some function where the food is laid out on a long table, buffet-style, you're apt to fill your plate up front and not have room left for the good stuff at the end of the table. Of course, there's also the danger of passing up everything and finding yourself with nothing on your plate when you come to the desserts.

— Considering how interested we are in getting it, there's seldom any interesting mail.

— Every time they list a baseball player's batting average, they ought to list his salary next to it.

— If it's going to rain while you're on vacation, it's better if it rains all day.

— Unless you park in a garage you don't trust, there's no reason why the ignition key shouldn't open the trunk of your car.

— The average person doesn't have much occasion to use a semicolon.

— Not more than one out of 10 pieces of clothing seems as good when you wear it as it did when you bought it.

— Most people, including me, don't know for sure what yogurt is.

— Most countries make better bread and better beer than we make in the United States.

— Kids don't play hopscotch anymore.

— In the morning, when I put my money in my pocket, I take all the bills and the quarters, but the pennies, the nickels and the dimes don't seem worth their weight in my pocket.

— Jean Harlow was better looking than Marilyn Monroe.

— You don't hear much about Max Headroom anymore.

— It's fun to have a cigarette lighter even if you don't smoke cigarettes.

— After 25 years, men are beginning to accept women in pants; inevitably the fashion industry is going to come up with skirts for me one of these years. Let's see how long it takes women to get used to that.

— The UN has never quite made it.

— It's not always possible to tell what a dog has in mind when it barks.

— A double bed is about right for one.

## In Search of the Perfect Shoe

No search in all history has been more intense than every individual's search for the perfect pair of shoes. What we want are shoes that look great, feel good and last for years without changing shape.

Well, Columbus discovered America and Admiral Byrd reached the North Pole, but not many of us have found the perfect pair of shoes. The basic problem is, feet were never meant to be enclosed. Feet are a much funnier and more irregular shape than hands, so gloves fit reasonably well while shoes hardly ever fit at all. Socks fit because they're more like mittens.

No one has "normal" feet. There is no such thing. Talk to anyone about their feet and he or she will always say, "I have a very high arch," "my feet are wide, but my heel is narrow," "my toes go in the wrong direction."

I buy my shoes from a mail order store called Hitchcock which specializes in wide shoes for men. My kids call it "the fat shoe store." It seems to me that the average shoe store has a woefully inadequate stock of wide shoes. As far as I know, New Balance is the only sneaker company that has a selection of widths.

I think of my size as being 8 1/2 EEE, but I notice recently that 9 EEEEE fits better. Either shoes are smaller or my feet have spread. I have a pair of tennis sneakers I like that are 8 1/2 EEEEE. They're a little short so they hurt after I've played two sets but I have the feeling I run faster in them so I keep wearing them.

Shoe sizes seem ridiculously complex. Why are widths AAA to EEE?

Years ago, I bought two pairs of molded shoes. They put my feet in a plaster cast and when it had dried, they carefully cut it off and

made shoes that fit the mold. They were very expensive, and funny-looking, just like my feet. Now my feet have spread out like the rest of me and the shoes no longer fit. I keep every pair of shoes I ever bought even though I only wear two or three pairs of them. I've kept the molded shoes because I can't stand throwing away anything that expensive but I'll never wear them again unless my feet shrink. That seems unlikely.

In a world where the long-term trend in everything — whether it's prices or social values — is from good toward bad, the trend in women's shoe styles is an aberration. Women's shoes are infinitely better, more sensible and comfortable than they used to be. (I've been told they're more comfortable. I don't wear them myself.) While it's unfortunate that a woman's leg looks good in a high-heeled shoe and her feet look good in pointy toes, high-heeled shoes with pointy little toes are rare on women these days and women are to be congratulated for all but abandoning them. The spike heels women used to wear were not much advanced over the ancient Chinese practice of binding women's feet.

We saw our granddaughter, Alexis, age 10, the other day and she was wearing new sneakers. Far from being hi-tech or pump up Nikes or Reeboks, they were just plain, old-fashioned Converse — big, bulky, high-top canvas sneakers. They cost \$28. If you've bought any of the sneakers with basketball players under contract to advertise them, you know they can cost \$80.

We asked Alexis about them and unbeknownst to me the big clodhopper sneakers are back in fashion with kids. She said everyone at school is wearing them. First thing you know, I'll be wearing KEDS again myself.

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## FEIFFER

LORD IF YOU KEEP THE FLOOD BELOW MY BOOTS, I'LL GO BACK TO SCHOOL.



LORD IF YOU KEEP THE FLOOD BELOW MY BELT, I WON'T SHOP LIFT.



LORD IF YOU KEEP THE FLOOD BELOW MY PECS, I WON'T HURT GIRLS.



LORD IF YOU KEEP THE FLOOD BELOW MY NOSE, I WON'T MUG OLD FOLKS.



LORD I HEAR YOU LOUD AND CLEAR.



YOU ENJOY MY LIFE STYLE.



Anna Husarska

## Police State

ODA 312 reports that Dorvil Luc, an accused goat thief, escaped from prison today. His cellmates claim he used magic to make his way. Guard believes that Dorvil turned himself into a puff of smoke and disappeared under the bars. Analyst comment: Recommend we install smoke detectors to prevent such incidents in the future. We believe the funding is authorized as a force protection matter.

— From the December 1994 logbook of multinational forces in Cap-Haitien, Haiti

On December 27, all through the day, angry youths looted a two-story house located behind the army headquarters in the center of Port-au-Prince. Why the dechoukaj? Because this simple wood-and-plaster structure — used as a barracks for the Haitian army — was suspected of being a weapons depot.

By late afternoon the place looked as if a swarm of locusts had gone through it. All the furniture and door and window frames were gone. So was the staircase: overzealous downstairs-looters had left their upstairs counterparts stranded and forced to jump from the five-story stump that still hung from the second story. Strewn on the floor were some rags, crumpled army documents, electricity bills and three dozen pregnancy tests ("MADE IN USA"). The sidewalk was sprinkled with colored pills that smelled of Vitamin B. By nightfall, even the tests and pills were gone, as if vacuumed up.

Given the appalling role Haiti's army played in the country's recent unhappy history, it is not hard to understand why Haitians excoriated their accumulated fear and humiliation on this lone house. It's harder, though, to understand how such an event could even take place. Haiti, and this city in particular, are crisscrossed with security forces of all types, nationalities and persuasions. In fact, American soldiers in full gear watched the looting from the balcony of the house next door. The yellow-capped International Police Monitors saw it as they drove by in their wide-bodied jeeps. Haitian interim police stood guard on the street outside. Yet none of these centurions prevented the looting; the G.I.s, because they have been told to avoid getting involved unless it is absolutely necessary; the monitors, because they are only monitors; the Haitians, because they have neither the competence nor the authority to intervene.

The trashing of the house was in response to an exceedingly violent riot the day before. Discharged soldiers — who had been let go because the Haitian Armed Forces (FADH) have been slashed from 7,500 to 1,500 — stormed the military headquarters. Four people were killed and six were injured. For this event, the G.I.s did intervene. And it's quite possible that their involvement warranted off a full-blown military revolt. (Here, stepping in was absolutely necessary.) At any rate, the establishment of a "secure and stable environment," promised by the U.S.-led multinational force (MNF) when it landed on September 19, still seems far from realized, at least on the streets of Port-au-Prince.

The resurgent chaos is understandable for a variety of reasons: first, the number of foreign troops in the country has dwindled from the 20,000 who initially took part in the invasion-turned-consensual-penetration to a meager 6,000. Of these, half are American. Second, operation "Uphold

Democracy" is not the easiest of missions. The multinational force's main task is "to reinforce democratic institutions in Haiti," and in the case of the Haitian military there was nothing very democratic to "reinforce." Third, the Interim Police Security Force (IPSF), which was assembled to keep order

political party. Residents of Mirebalais say that many FRAPH leaders — often prominent local citizens — speak English, befriend the Americans, serve as interpreters and, in the end, dupe them. A French priest monitoring human rights in one of these towns went so far as to call the G.I.s "Macoutistes." In Gonaives, a U.S. military commander told me that he enjoys working with people who were in FADH because it is the only well-organized structure in the country. (It was about to praise the legendary discipline of Gestapo detachments but decided to behave.)

While U.S. troops in the north also organize community projects — garbage collection, latrine repairs — they seem more devoted to security than their comrades elsewhere. In Limbe the goal is to encourage the interim officers to assume their full duties as fast as possible, even though this sometimes means former torturers have to face former victims. If carried out properly, this strategy can work.

An American sergeant I spoke with in Grande Rivière du Nord, an experienced teacher from a military police academy, obviously knows how to run a boot camp. His command has established authority — and trust — in the region. The people know he'll crack down on the bad guys. A judge in his town issued an arrest warrant for Corporal Propheete Berlain. Vetted and recycled into the interim corps (serial number 0608), Corporal Berlain has now been charged with torturing three people in the period known as "Defacto" — the forced exile of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. This was an unusual case, in that the culprit was recognized and the victims had the courage to testify against him. Such salutary efforts work in places like Grande Rivière. In other spots, such as the central plateau, where the multinational forces are seen as friendly to FRAPH or FADH, the local population is unlikely to come out with complaints.

The only praise for the new Haitian interim police security force I found was in a report from the U.S. mission at the U.N. to the Security Council. Dated December 19, 1994, it announced with parental pride: "Initial reports highlight the success and acceptance of IPSF graduates on the job. In [the Southwestern town of] Les Cayes the IPSF has been applauded on two occasions for chasing criminals down in the streets." Such boasting obviously raised many an eyebrow in the human rights community working in Haiti.

There may be more to this praise than just self-satisfaction. The report could be paving the way toward declaring the Haitian environment "secure and stable," which means sending even more of the G.I.s back home and leaving just those who will serve in the future U.N. mission. For the Clinton administration, which has been short on foreign policy successes, the temptation to declare victory and withdraw may be too enticing to pass up.

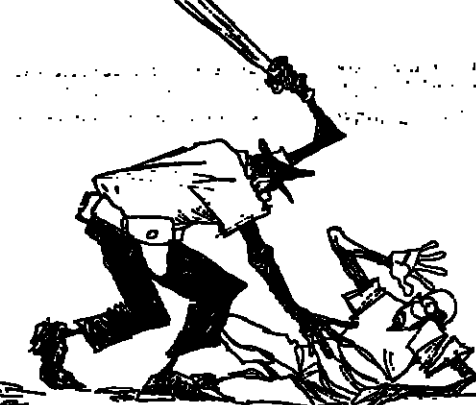
This would be unwise. The successes brought about by the U.S. troops could be lost if the new Haitian security forces are not given time to take root and gain authority plus competence (if only by hanging around with the G.I.s). If the change from combat khaki to baby blue comes too soon, Haiti's plentiful cohort of low-ranking thugs will simply outwait the Americans. And violence, the numbing violence that has plagued Haiti for too many years, will return.

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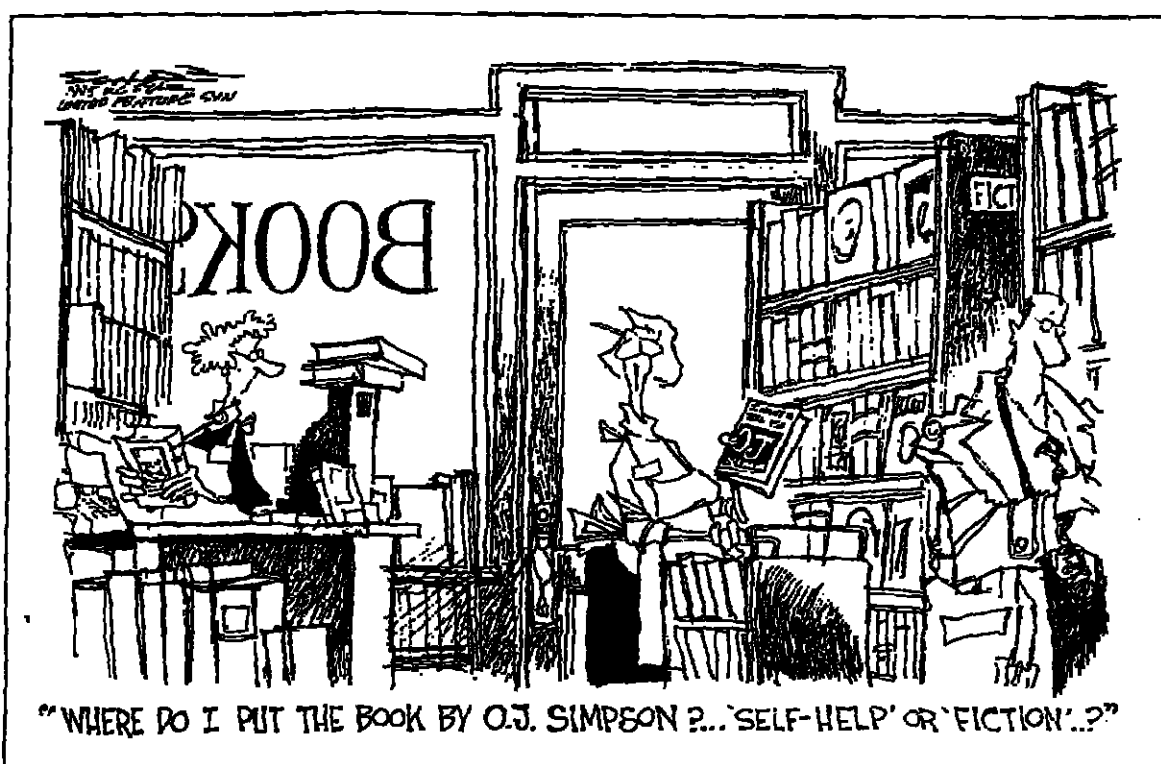
## SPEAK SOFTLY



## CARRY A BIG STICK



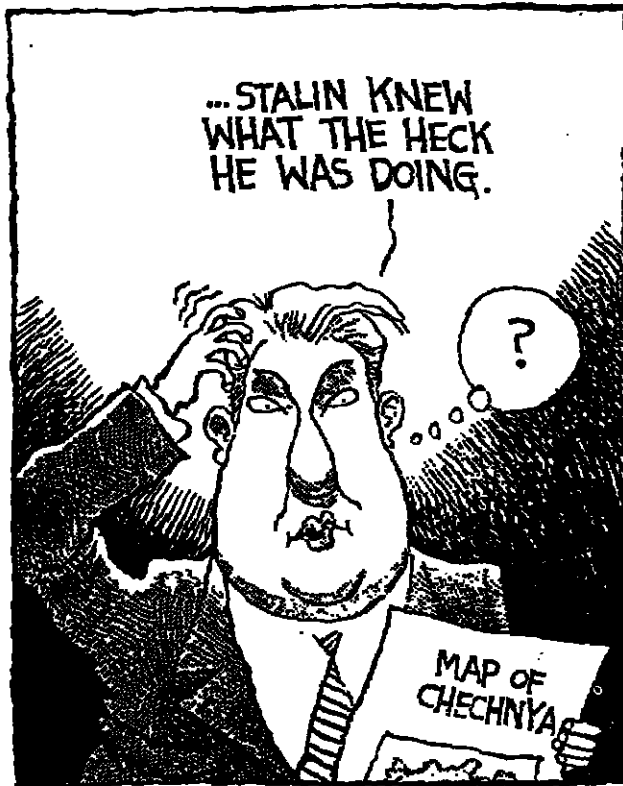
# EDITORIAL CARTOONS



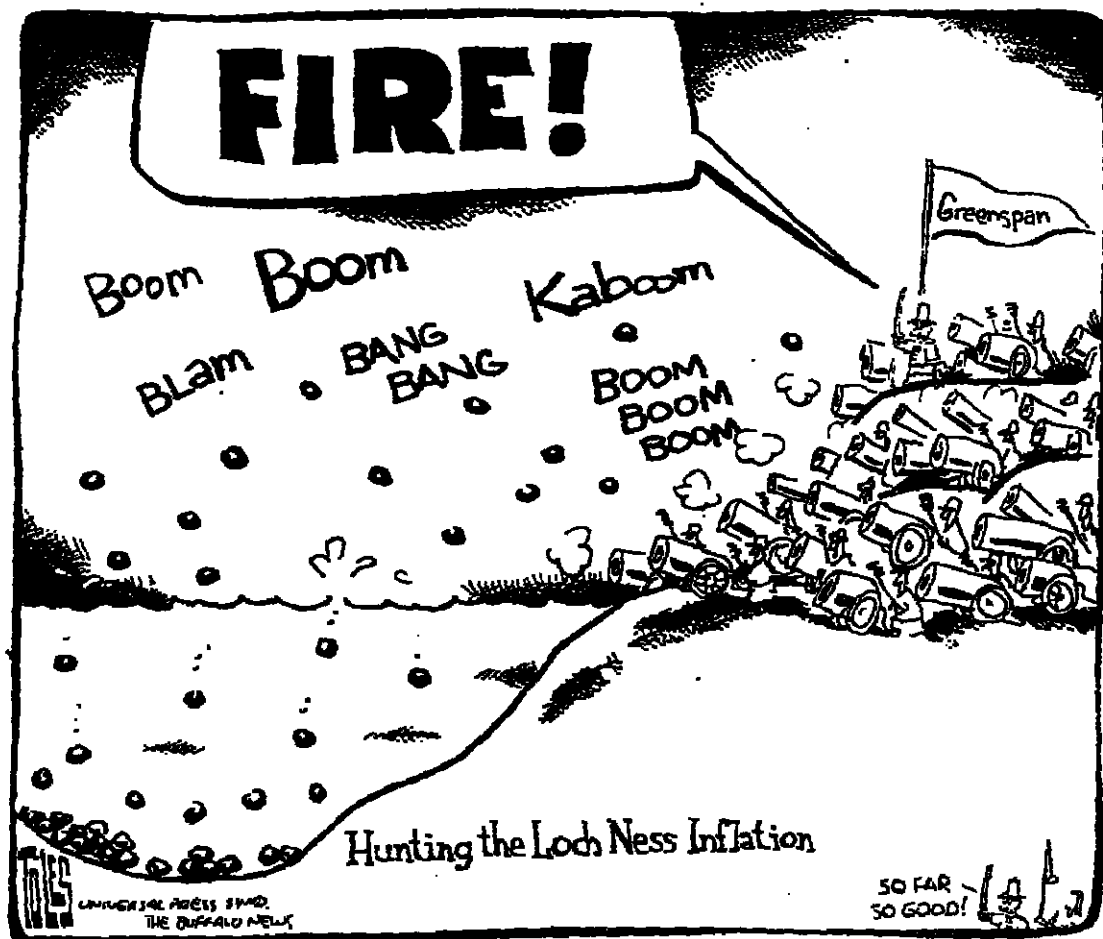
"WHERE DO I PUT THE BOOK BY O.J. SIMPSON?... SELF-HELP OR FICTION?"



R. F. R. ©1995 PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE



"POOR GUY... TO AVOID SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE HE STARTED CALLING SEX HOT LINES... NOW HE'S GOT CANCER FROM HIS CELLULAR PHONE..."



FIRE!

Boom Boom  
Blam BANG BANG  
Kaboom  
Boom Boom Boom

Hunting the Loch Ness Inflation

SO FAR  
SO GOOD!

Alan Dershowitz

## Why Spousal Abuse Doesn't Predict Murder

What is the relationship between spousal "abuse" and spousal murder? That is one of the issues raised by the O.J. Simpson case, in which the prosecution is seeking to have the jury hear evidence of alleged abuse going back 17 years and ranging from shouting matches to a New Year's Eve physical assault. But this important issue transcends any particular trial and raises questions about the threshold of scientific reliability required by the courts before

as potential murderers batterers who will kill. The social sciences are simply not capable of making these kinds of difficult predictive decisions when the relationship is as low as it is — less than 1 in 1,000 — between batterers and murderers.

There is an analogy to the relationship between marijuana and heroin use: Most heroin users started with marijuana, but only a tiny fraction of marijuana users go on to heroin. It is impossible, therefore, to predict which marijuana users will turn

**"It is, of course, true that among the small number of men who do kill their present or former mates, a considerable number did first assault them. Some, however, killed with no prior history of assault..."**

evidence can be heard by a jury.

First, some numbers — in order to put the relationship between abuse and murder in perspective. Over the past decade, we have learned a great deal about the pervasiveness of spousal abuse. Although precise figures are difficult to come by, estimates of spousal violence in America range from a low of about 2 million spousal assaults each year to a high of more than 4 million. According to Murray Straus, a well-known family violence researcher, there is a spousal assault every 18 seconds in this country.

The number of spousal murders are far easier to calculate, since the vast majority of murders are reported and solved. According to the justice department, which recently completed a long-term study on violence in the family, there are approximately 1,430 murders of women each year by their present or former mates. This means that more than 99.9 percent of men who assault their wives or girlfriends do not go on to kill them. Less than one-tenth of one percent do.

It is, of course, true that among the small number of men who do kill their present or former mates, a considerable number did first assault them. Some, however, killed with no prior history of assault — for financial reasons, in order to marry someone else, or out of a variety of other motives.

Because so few "batterers" end up killing, all reputable social scientists agree that spousal murder cannot be predicted from a history of spousal abuse. Put another way, no expert can reliably tell which 1,500 batterers out of the large pool of over 2 million will eventually become murderers. Even if they were to single out these relatively few batterers who used weapons — such as guns or knives — against their mates, they could not determine which ones will go on to kill, without both "overpredicting" and "underpredicting." "Overpredicting" means falsely identifying as potential murderers batterers who would not kill, and "underpredicting" means failing to identify

to heroin as it is to predict which batterers will turn to murder. Only "junk science" and "advocacy science" — of the kind rejected by the Supreme Court and the appellate courts in recent months — claim that spousal murders can be predicted from spousal abuse, and they provide no hard data in support of these partisan claims. Instead they point to anecdotes about murdered women who were first abused. But no one disputes the fact that some murdered women were first abused. The issue is whether a history of abuse is necessarily a prelude to murder. The evidence on that is clear: It is not. Indeed, it is so unlikely as to be statistically insignificant.

This is one of the reasons why our legal system has traditionally balked at allowing the prior history of an accused to be admitted into evidence against him. Jurors are likely to believe that there is a closer relationship than there actually is between a defendant's prior history and the act for which he is standing trial. Thus, no court would ever allow a prosecutor to present evidence at a heroin possession trial that the defendant had previously tried marijuana. Similarly, the courts generally do not allow evidence at a murder trial that the defendant may have hit his wife in the past.

There are exceptions to this general rule, and prosecutors frequently seek to smuggle past acts into evidence under one of the exceptions. These exceptions include "signature" crimes — crimes which are virtually identical in modus operandi to the crime at issue — as well as evidence of motive. But a motive to hit is not a motive to kill, and so courts have been reluctant to allow prior acts to come in under this rubric.

One of the most frequent grounds for appellate reversal of convictions is the improper admission of evidence of prior crimes. Accordingly, trial courts are understandably cautious about admitting such evidence.

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"THIS PART MAY BE A LITTLE TRICKY"

OPERATION  
POST-NAPTA

HERLOCK



## BY GARRY TRUDEAU



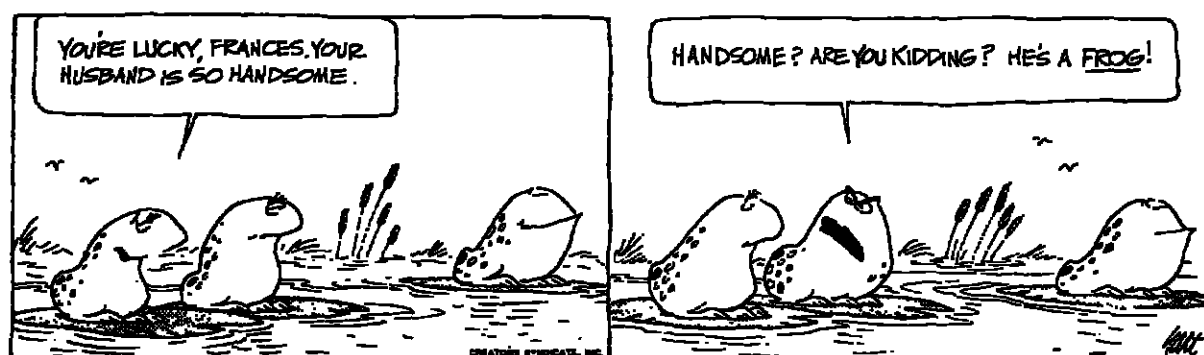
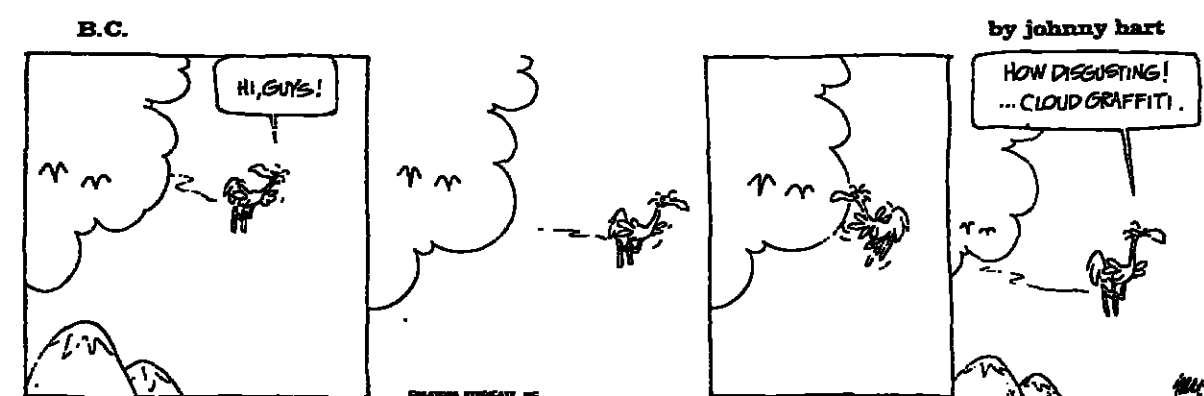
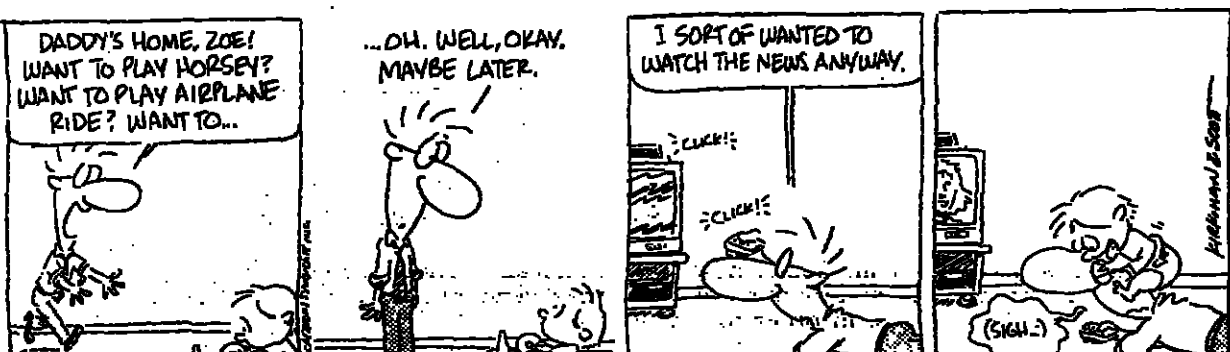
## by Bill Watterson



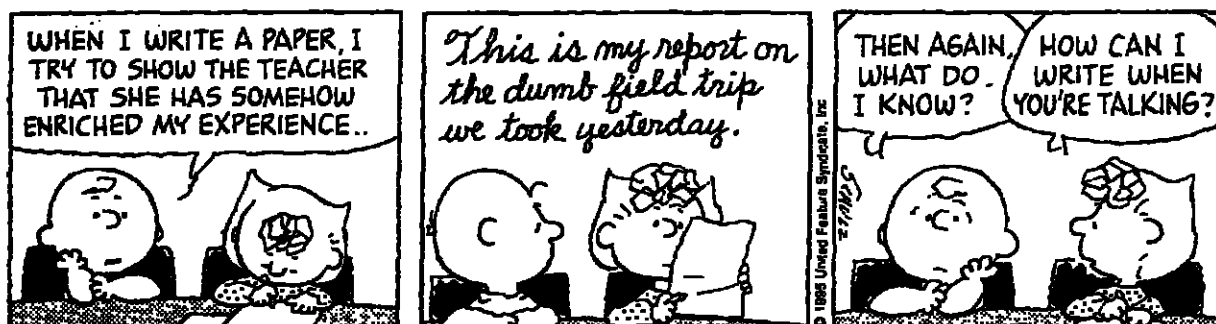
**by Jeff MacNelly**



**By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott**



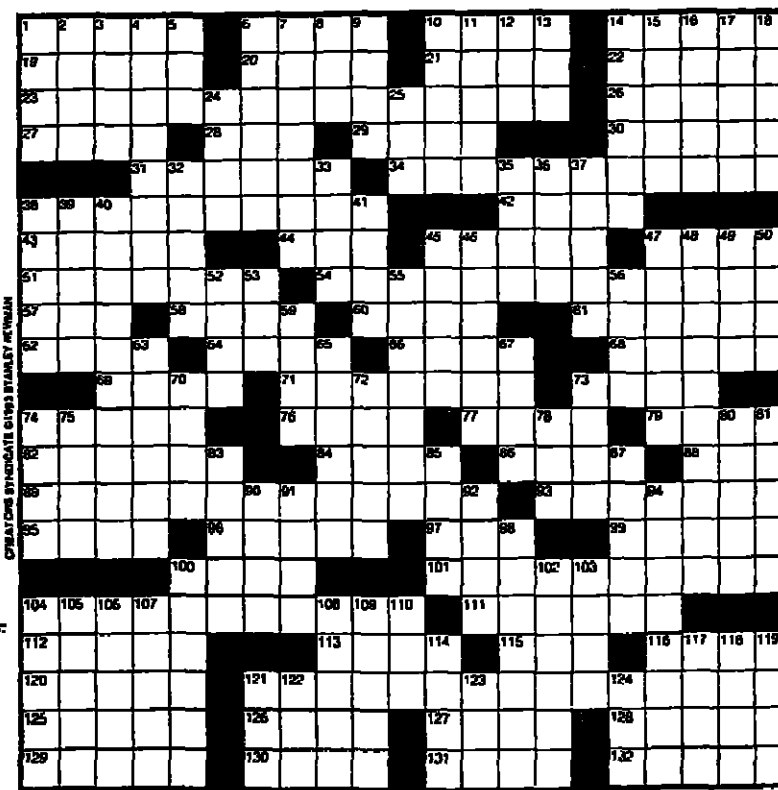
## by Charles Schulz



## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman  
**FARE GAME: Culinary wordplay**  
by Cathy Milhauser

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| 43 Hangup in hand          | 122 "Zip . . . Doo-Dah!"      | 46 Address Claire             |
| 44 Four-to-hand            | 125 Wed on the run            | 47 Rentel                     |
| 45 Bldg'd blast in '46     | 126 Venetian resort           | 48 Cardilogical's fare?       |
| 47 Asian cuisine           | 127 "Lid . . ."               | 49 Analogous                  |
| 51 Beechmont               | 128 Lamb specialty            | 50 Easter and Christmas Abbr. |
| 54 Fed's fare?             | 129 Vespere preacher          | 52 Plenty                     |
| 55 Ltd. counterpart        | 130 Latex                     | 53 Computer holder, maybe     |
| 58 Do In                   | 131 Sea dogs                  | 55 Old Chrysler               |
| 60 Read closely (over)     | 132 Fence straddler           | 56 Helen of Troy's mother     |
| 61 Hammer anew             |                               | 59 Satisfactor                |
| 62 Clucts of dychain       | <b>DOWN</b>                   | 63 Where spirits are found    |
| 64 Cartel acronymy         | 1 Stevie feature              | 65 Moves furively             |
| 66 Sound unsound           | 2 Clairant's cousin           | 67 Leave a highway            |
| 68 Mandis bone             | 3 Pouty face                  | 70 Book after Neh.            |
| 70 Run across              | 4 Wines from Sicily           | 72 Arm of the sea             |
| 71 Traffic cop's fare?     | 5 Bar assn. member            | 73 Ernest's nickname          |
| 73 Breathe heavily         | 6 Fondue fuel                 | 74 Get a reat                 |
| 74 Regions                 | 7 Give or get advice          | 75 Rainbow shape              |
| 76 Word form for "race"    | 8 Rainbow shape               | 76 Get a reat                 |
| 77 Latvian port            | 9 Clove's bill                | 78 Sunset or Mercury          |
| 78 Way up the slope        | 10 Thowled letterer           |                               |
| 82 Crust stand             |                               |                               |



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| 87 St. owner            | 105 Father Cather       | 119 new, an shall      |
| 90 Come closer to       | 106 Dangerous gas       | 121 Lodge brother      |
| 91 Celebratory          | 107 _ de chine          | 122 Sumdial number     |
| 92 Courtierist coin     | 108 Hags to have        | 123 Mucklerian Terbell |
| 94 Most combustible     | 109 South-of-the-border | 124 Jars guilmet       |
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**QUOTE CRYPTOGRAM** by Rebecca Kornbluh

NWDEOA WTWYR ZOLLWZZBOK PIQ ZMIQAZ I ZOYVYFZWA

PUMDWY-FO-KIH - DONWYM DOPVDYWR

**Last Week's Quote Cryptogram:** No man can think clearly when his fists are clenched - George Jean

**Nathan**



**Gershon Gorenberg**

## The very selective Israeli army

# We Don't Want You

**H**anut Magid arrived at the Israeli Army's induction center in late December, 1994, and traded in her civvies for olive drab. A soft-spoken, athletic 18-year-old with long dark hair, Magid hopes to become a physical fitness trainer. Like other Israelis, Magid grew up expecting compulsory military service. But the term "compulsory" is ironic in her case; a year ago her local draft center told her she was medically exempt. As a premature infant, she'd had a tube surgically inserted to drain

**"The story underlines the Israeli army's growing manpower problem: it has too much. From the country's first day, a small population and big defense needs demanded total mobilization, with all Jews eligible for conscription."**

excess fluid from her skull, and army rules forbid drafting anyone with a foreign object in his or her body.

For Magid, the Israeli version of a 4F was no gift. She filed her appeal; her childhood doctors called the press; a national newspaper spread her story over two full pages. At a medical board hearing, she found dozens of other men and women, people begging to be drafted. Some were on their sixth appeal. Magid was luckier: the medical officers agreed on the spot to let her in.

The story underlines the Israeli army's growing manpower problem: it has too much. From the country's first day, a small population and big defense needs demanded total mobilization with all Jews eligible for conscription. According to Reuven Gal, formerly the army's chief psychologist and currently director of the Israeli Institute for Military Studies, Israel once drafted more than 90 percent

of its eligible men, more than any other country in this century: only wartime North Vietnam came close. Most women have also been called up. Today, while the military is still hungry for combat-fit recruits, the universal draft is providing too many men and women for support tasks.

The simple solution would be to hand out exemptions. But in Israel, the idea of selective service is regarded as an attack on sacred values, and on the poor and uneducated — the people most likely to be exempted. Debate is growing over conscription policy and the army denies what its own figures reveal: that it is gradually becoming more discriminating.

The surplus is the price of several successes. The first success was population growth, always an Israeli goal. The children of a mid-'70s baby boom are now draft age. Planeloads of immigrants from the former Soviet Union have boosted the population by 10 percent in five years, adding more recruits.

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Meanwhile, the military has gone high tech. In Israel's early years, notes Hebrew University historian Martin van Creveld, it faced an arms embargo, leaving it "long on manpower and short on technology." Today it has the smartest arms the United States and local R&D can provide, and the army needs what one politician recently called, with some spite, "courageous technicians." So the brightest and most fit recruits undergo long training. Others are not only unneeded as grunts, but cost money that could be used for weapons.

Then there's peace. To be sure, the fifteen-year-old accord with Egypt didn't eliminate the chance of war, Israel will have to keep up its guard after what is expected to be a "cold peace" with Syria, and force reductions based on the emerging Palestinian peace are years away. Still, the treaty with Egypt clearly

reduced the danger of war on all fronts, and eliminated the logistics burden of holding the Sinai Peninsula, larger than all of Israel. Israel has now signed an agreement with Jordan that is expected to produce a "warm peace." Even if a treaty with Syria doesn't explicitly call for troop cuts, it could produce the result indirectly. Israel, says Joseph Alpher, director of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, "envisages compensating for the territory and high ground of the Golan with high-tech means." That would be expensive, and every new expenditure increases pressure to cut personnel.

The bottom line, Jaffee Center reports show, is that Israel's regular forces have remained virtually the same size since the mid-'80s. Manpower needs are expected to fall gradually, and in the long term peace could reduce the need for combat troops. A military source says that "as a policy, being more selective isn't under discussion." But army figures show that 17.5 percent of eligible men are now exempted from service. Another 15 percent are discharged early — meaning one-third of Israeli men don't serve a full three years. For women, who are barred from combat, compulsory service has been sliced from two years to twenty-one months. Men who complete regular service remain in the reserves until they're 50. But, among reservists, selective service has become a fact, with combat soldiers called up for long periods every year, while most others do little time.

Yet the myth of a people's army is woven into Israeli life. Bearing arms is part of the Zionist code; soldiers are posted to Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum as part of their military education. The army is expected not only to defend the country, but to supply a shared experience erasing the lines between rich and poor, native and immigrant. Van Creveld has written that with "the seclusion from civilian society, the strange dress and haircuts, the bazing, the instruction in the country's lore, the element of bloodshed," army service has been a significant rite of initiation.

The military is also an avenue for social mobility, a way for poor children with brains and determination to get ahead. Combat units are assigned recruits who have scored highly on intelligence.

aptitude and motivation tests, and all officers come up through the ranks. "When I come and say I'm a reserve officer in the paratroops, it opens doors," says Addis Akum, 29, who arrived in Israel from Ethiopia when he was 14, without his parents. Akum was the first Ethiopian to enter the highly respected paratroops, and the first to win lieutenant's bars. In the late '80s, he says, as many as two-thirds of young Ethiopians reached combat units, many becoming commissioned and non-commissioned officers. "The army seemed like a place where you could advance on the basis of your ability," he says. Often, though, kids from the wrong towns and neighborhoods end up as cooks, mechanics or other support troops, and some land exemptions as undereducated, or undermotivated. Recently, more young Ethiopians have taken those routes, and Akum says that if the army becomes choosier, "the Ethiopians will be the first to suffer."

It's the winner-of-the young people who are most likely to make the crack units. To improve their chances, some teens sign up for pre-army courses. In the southern town of Eilat, for instance, the nonprofit Challenge Center runs an evening course for twelfth-graders that includes training in the desert, orienting and marching while carrying comrades on stretchers. Graduates finish up with two weeks of climbing in the Italian and French Alps. "The army is compulsory," says Oliver Newirth, who runs the course. "People say, 'As long as I have to do it, I might as well do it the best I can.'"

Military service, however essential, also has a price, and not just in physical casualties. "There are young people who are left with scars," stresses Reuven Gal, "either because of combat, or simply because of being in the army, with its demands." Training for fighting units is grueling. As a recently discharged soldier describes it, "They want to push you to the edge of breaking down and make you function there. We never had enough time to eat, or to sleep, or to piss.... Then they'd punish us for falling asleep in a class.... In maneuvers, we'd fall asleep standing up, and one commander used to kick guys in the chest to wake them up." Those who can't bear the military and are released early bear a stigma afterward.

Yet virtually no one publicly supports issuing more exemptions. "Without a doubt," says Moshe Nativ, a deep-voiced reserve general and former chief of the army's Manpower Branch, "selective service would be convenient from a purely military perspective." Nativ opposes the idea, however, and neither he nor anyone familiar with the military can name one general who backs it. Among politicians, opposition is intense. Labor Party Knesset member Ra'anan Cohen articulates the mood, saying, "Most of those rejected will be the disadvantaged, who will only become more alienated."

An obvious option would be to take everyone, but for less time. That, however, would mean early discharges for combat troops as well. But combat troops are still needed, and they don't become fully trained until the final months of service. Making up for conscripts with already overburdened reservists would be a politician's nightmare.

The military could balance a shortfall of conscripts in fighting units by signing up more volunteers as career soldiers. But career soldiers get paid well; conscripts are cheap. Worse, there's no guarantee that the smart and success-bound will sign up for extra time; they're eager to conquer the universities.

Some argue for civilian national service: anyone the military doesn't need would be given other work. But the desire to serve has come from the obvious need to defend one's country. Forestry work isn't likely to fit the bill.

A year ago an army-appointed commission gave the government a secret report on the manpower glut. Recommendations reportedly included sending conscripts to police duty and reducing the period of service for male soldiers. Neither move, it appears, will solve the problem. Gradually, with no general or government wanting to say so aloud, more Israelis will get the news that so angered Hanti Magid: that they need not report. "I don't think the army can turn away someone who wants to serve and contribute," Magid told me just before her call-up. But it can, and it probably will.

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#Nader Mousavizadeh

# Sanctuary

MIKE LUCKOVICH  
ATLANTA CONSTITUTION



**C**hristmas in Copenhagen is seldom as you would imagine it. Our only snow was an hour of flurries on the day after Christmas; the polar bears, remarkably, stayed in their neighborhood about 1,300 miles to the north; and what snowgear may have been stocked in abundance was replaced with umbrellas as the season wound down. This year, though, the bleakness of days with only six hours of light was visited not only on the hardened, ascetic Danes, but also on the 18,000 Bosnian refugees in the country. Many of them were experiencing their first Christmas away from their homeland. They now sleep at night without the fear of Serbian shells raining down on their homes; but they have not exactly been welcomed with open arms by their fellow Europeans.

The ur-myth of Danish tolerance and humanity toward the persecuted is, of course, the story of the rescue of the Danish Jews in October 1943. After three years of less than honorable cohabitation with the German occupiers, the Danish government stopped cooperating on August 29, 1943, and, with the King's blessing, resigned. German forces entered Copenhagen, and the Gestapo started to ferret out Denmark's Jews, who until then had enjoyed the protection of the government. Within a week, though, 7,000 Danish Jews and Jews of foreign nationality were rescued in a boatlift to neutral Sweden. Five hundred were captured and sent to Theresienstadt, where fifty died; the rest returned after the war. During the anniversary ceremonies two years ago, the recurring response of those families and fishermen who had saved and sheltered the Jews was simple: "What else did you expect us to do?"

The heroic rescue of the Danish Jews still sends shivers down the spine. But with today's Bosnians in Denmark, one is more likely to feel a shudder of embarrassment. Granted, the very reason the Jews were saved was that they were thought of as fellow Danes in every conceivable way. It was a virtue in Europe then to think of the other fellow. In 1995 the other is, no doubt, more other — a man or a woman or a child whose roots are Balkan, whose language is Slav and whose faith, if any, is Muslim. It's ironic, still, that the Muslim affiliation of these thoroughly secularized Bosnians is raised as a red flag by Danes whose own secularism is

second to none in Europe.) And so a week before Christmas, in a procedural parliamentary move, the right-wing opposition in Parliament succeeded in postponing the passage of a law that would allow bosnian refugees with more than two years of residency to apply for permanent asylum and, ultimately, for citizenship. The Bosnians became pawns in a much larger (and smaller) debate about immigration, and their fate hostage to lumpen-politicians of every stripe.

This was a particularly nasty act of demagoguery, since the opposition knew that the Social Democratic government had the votes to pass the law at its second hearing on January 12. The political aim was, quite evidently, to fan the flames of fear and xenophobia, as well as to exploit the rebellion by Social Democratic mayors and local politicians whose parochial interests have put them on a collision course with the government. To be sure, Denmark, along with Sweden and Germany, has taken a vastly greater proportion of Bosnian

refugees than either France or Britain, and, on the whole, has treated them as well or better than any other European host country. And yet its troubles with its immigrant and refugee communities mirror those of most European countries, and its debates are miniature version of those played out among its larger neighbors.

The fear and the ignorance that mark the immigration debate in Denmark were crystallized, quite inadvertently, by a proposal from a petty, faux-populist mayor of one of Copenhagen's suburbs. At the height of the argument over whether to keep the Bosnians in camps (until 'the fighting stops,' as the opposition phrases it with exquisite blitheness), or permit them to enter Danish society, this man of the little people offered a solution: a national referendum on the question, "Should Denmark become a multiethnic nation?" There was, unsurprisingly, an outcry of revulsion across the political spectrum (excepting Denmark's version of Le Pen's Front National). And Copenhagen's

liberal daily, *Politiken*, reminded the country of its obligation to the refugees of a war for which Europe was largely responsible.

Still, the mayor's question — however preposterous for a national referendum — was not an unreasonable premise for thinking about national identity in a Europe of migration and mobility. Several years ago the Danish editor and journalist Herbert Pundik remarked that Denmark either must shut its borders completely or accept a multicultural future. His aim was to alert the Danes to a reality from which there is only the most heartless of escapes. He also acknowledged, though, that the immigrants of our era would not be as easily assimilated as those from Northern and Eastern Europe. Many of them are Muslims with little affection for what they perceive as the rootless secularism of modern Denmark. Their children, however, have shown an altogether greater desire to assimilate into Danish society, and, given the chance, would like to think of *themselves*

both as immigrants and Danes. (As a Mousavizadeh of Copenhagen, not entirely a Dane and not entirely a Persian, I can understand.) The problem lies in the culture's persistent inability to conceive of the foreign-born as Danes or potential Danes. They are invariably described as foreigners, or guest-workers, here on borrowed time, their identity as much defined by their otherness as by their place in the work force.

Denmark's (and Europe's) debate about a multiethnic future is long overdue. Of course, the immigrants still make up a small percentage of the population in Denmark (between 5 percent and 10 percent), and remain peripheral to the nation's identity. But the walls of identity are porous. With the influx of the Bosnian refugees and of those who undoubtedly will follow from nationalism's killing fields, the choice between an imaginary homogeneity and a culture willing to redefine its premise of belonging will appear with ever more urgency. Perhaps then, the condition of exile will be seen not only, loftily, as the inspiration for so much of great contemporary literature, but also, more mundanely, as the beginning of ordinary lives for people who seek only more of the ordinary. "Exile accepted as destiny, the way we accept an incurable illness, should help us see through our self-delusions," Czeslaw Milosz has written. For the exiles and their new neighbors in Europe, the words are not only philosophical. They are also practical. They make the foreign familiar.

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[illegible]



# Habimah: A history of dramatic woes

THERE AND THEN  
SRAYA SHAPIRO

**H**ABIMAH'S woes began at the company's inception and never went away. Aza Zvi recounts the troubles that plagued its first members in war-torn Moscow, in an article in a recent issue of the drama quarterly *Bamah*.

Zvi's father, Raphael Zvi, played Haman in *The Dybbuk*, the great vehicle which made Habimah famous. His daughter publishes in *Bamah* the letters he received from colleagues after he left the company and comments, using her own memory, family conversations and personal interviews with Habimah's founding members. It is a pathetic story.

The principal dramatic personae are Nahum Tzema, the Hebrew teacher who founded the company in 1917, Hanna Rovina, the kindergarten teacher who turned actress, actor Moshe Halevy (Rovina's husband for a while), and Aharon Meskin. Raphael Zvi's friend from his home town, the giant with the heart of gold and a deep voice.

Everybody extolled Tzema's perseverance in promoting his dream of a Hebrew theater. He persuaded a few Jewish benefactors, who still had their millions in the first years of the Revolution, to support his enterprise. He battled with the authorities, particularly the Yevsektsia (the Jewish section of the Communist Party), which tried to nip Habimah in the bud.

Backing Habimah were Maxim Gorki, Chaliapin, and the commissar for cultural affairs, Lunacharski.

Tzema was often detained by the Cheka (the precursor of the

KGB). He argued that the state was by constitution obliged to provide for the cultural needs of all its citizens, even if only a few demanded Hebrew. Tzema argued that the world owed a cultural debt to the Jews and won over the great Stanislavski, who assigned his pupil Vakhtangov to work with the young Jewish enthusiasts.

Vakhtangov, an Armenian, directed Habimah's production of *The Dybbuk*, the mystical play that made the company world-famous.

NOT EASILY though, Vakhtangov was often disgruntled with his students. "Your aspirations are personal, not artistic," Vakhtangov admonished.

"Why should I go on?" he asked. He called them pampered children who resented discipline. He nicknamed Rovina "cry-baby."

The kind of expressionist acting Vakhtangov wanted went against Rovina's grain. She preferred naturalistic acting. Still, he carried on with *The Dybbuk*, perhaps spellbound against his will.

In 1926 Habimah toured Europe with *The Dybbuk* and *The Golem* and received critical acclaim. But the internal strain in the company exploded into a crisis. Tzema was accused of dictatorial management.

Several key members of the underpaid group had already left it in Moscow. Conspicuous among them was Gnessin, who had tried before the First World War to establish a theatre in Palestine; Miriam Elias, the first Hanan in *The Dybbuk*; and Moshe Halevy.



Vakhtangov's Habimah production of 'The Dybbuk' during the 1920s helped make the company world famous.

Halevy privately staged a performance of *Jacob and Rachel* but Tzema refused to let it be performed by Habimah, and Halevy went to Palestine and set up his own theater company and eventually directed his version of *Jacob and Rachel*.

Raphael Zvi also left. He wanted the woman he loved, Rovina, to play the part of Miriam in *Herod and Miriam*, and Tzema gave the role to his wife. Zvi, in a grand exit, called Tzema a few names and walked out. He headed for Tel Aviv and joined Halevy's Ohel for four years.

Tzema, who by then was no

longer the director of Habimah but just "a member of management," accompanied the troupe on its tour to the US in 1927 and wanted them to stay there rather than going to Palestine, which most of the actors argued was the natural thing to do.

Perhaps Tzema was reacting to reports of Halevy's agony, that he barely managed to keep Ohel going on a shoestring.

Years later, shortly before World War II, Tzema arrived in Tel Aviv and asked to be readmitted to the company he had created. But was rejected by a majority of his former comrades. They praised him profusely, how-

ever, after his death.

Not all Habimah members were Zionists; for some that ideology denoted a bourgeois and thus despicable stance. A few returned to Russia, and Rovina frankly admitted she loved Moscow and missed it.

During a tour in Europe, Meskin wrote to Raphael Zvi, his childhood friend, that he was worried about his future. "It's August. We relax. Marseilles, Cannes, Nice... the Alps. So many beautiful things! One would like to see America. But what next?"

Meskin was frustrated. "I want Russia. But where? How? It's not

## Cats make boundaries clear

HEADS 'N' TAILS  
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

**W**HY does a cat wind itself around a human's legs and rub itself against them? Is this a sign of affection? A number of people have asked me this and an explanation is in order.

While some affection, or at least what we call affection, in a cat is definitely a component of this behavior, the whole thing is more complicated than that, since a cat will also often rub its face and body against a piece of furniture. I once had a refrigerator with a small dark streak just at the height of the cat's face that was caused by daily rubbings against it.

This behavior is especially one of territorial marking. A cat has scent glands located just below its cheek bones, on the lip and the chin and at the base of the tail. Rubbing these parts of the body against an object marks it as the cat's own, and this explains the rubbing of the face and the winding about that brings the tail base gland into contact with the object.

Whether the object rubbed is another cat, a favorite basket, a refrigerator door or a person, the object of the exercise is the same.

In addition to using these glands, unneutered male cats also spray urine to mark territory or possessions. This habit makes it difficult to keep an unneutered male in the house, since its urine has an odor almost as offensive as a small skunk's. After a tom has been neutered, this smelly deposit will persist for a few weeks until all the excess testosterone is flushed out of its system and then it will disappear.

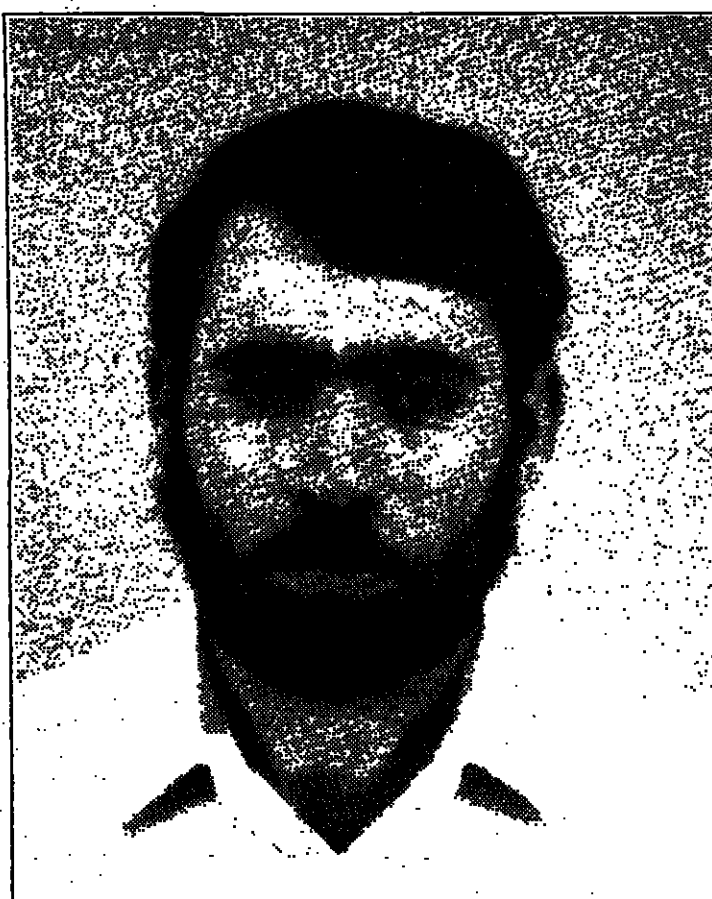
Tomcats also mark the boundaries of their property in this way, leaving a message to all other prowling toms that this is private property. Whenever a tom wants to expand his territory in the neighborhood, he first places his scent over that of the rival on territorial markers and only then goes out to battle for the space.

A FEW females, particularly those on contraceptive hormones, also try to mark territory in this fashion. The habit is socially undesirable, but at least the female doesn't smell the way a tom does. If the habit becomes insufferable, it might be desirable simply to spay her instead of continuing with hormonal treatments. The problem will disappear almost at once.

In the case of males, territorial marking is an important survival factor. These usually mutually respected markers prevent a multitude of cat fights since only when under real pressure will an adult tom go to battle over the territory, usually only when a particularly desirable female is to be gained through this sort of rivalry. Real cat fights are usually quite vicious (most encounters are settled by mutual bluffing through caterwauling) and in almost every real fight, one or both of the males gets hurt. This is dangerous, particularly to a feral cat with no human to treat its wounds. It is therefore a survival advantage for the species to have as many safeguards as possible to prevent fights.

## A Sufi voice: We are all the children of Abraham

Although Sufis are regarded as moderates, they are not the 'Reform' sector of Islam, Haim Shapiro reports



Abu Much: Makes a clear distinction between strict observance and religious fanaticism.

**W**HEN Sheikh Ziad Abu Much, director of the College of Shari'a and Islamic Studies at Baka al-Gharbiya, recently attended the Friday night services of Jerusalem's Har-El congregation, he was interested to see how much Jewish and Moslem prayer had in common.

The service at the Jerusalem Reform congregation, which has a forum for interfaith dialogue, was part of a seminar organized by the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel (ICCI), an umbrella organization of institutions and individuals which seeks to promote interreligious understanding within Israeli society.

"The intention is the same, to draw closer to Allah with a pure heart. That is all God wants from all of us, from all nations, to know that we belong to Him, to God," said Abu Much in an interview at the college after the seminar.

Speaking in Hebrew, Abu Much used both the Hebrew and Arabic words for God. A member of Israel's Sufi Moslem community, he used the traditional Sufi method of parable to demonstrate his message of religious understanding.

A man wants to see a doctor, he said. The man asks directions. One person says to go one way, another says to go another way. In the end, each path will reach the same doctor.

The religions of the world are like the sea, he said. In each religion, cultural values are like the fish in the sea. Everyone wants to catch the fish, but they use different tools. One man fishes with a

hook, another with a net.

Abu Much said he was impressed by the fact that the Jewish service mentioned the patriarch Abraham many times.

"That brings us together. The Koran also mentions Abraham many times. It deepens the feeling that we are all children of our father Abraham."

Dr. Ron Kronish, director of the ICCI, said that the aim of the

seminar at which Abu Much was a speaker was to bring more local educators and interreligious activists into the field of interreligious dialogue: "In the past, the feeling was that the same people were always involved in dialogue. Most of them were from Jerusalem and they were mostly Western Christians and Jews from English-speaking countries who made aliyah."

In addition to Abu Much, the Moslems taking part included Abed Shaib from Dabburiya, who is from the Interns for Peace organization, and Issa Jabber, head of the comprehensive high school in Abu Ghosh.

Abu Much was born in Baka al-Gharbiya 37 years ago. He studied at the college, which was established five years ago under the spiritual leadership of Sheikh Afif Husayn Qasim, chairman of the board of the college and the spiritual mentor of Israel's Sufi community.

THE ESSENCE of Sufi teaching is to purify the soul of all that is not good in the eyes of Allah, Abu Much said. There are just a few hundred adherents in Israel, according to Prof. Yossi Ginat, former head of the Israeli Academic Institute in Cairo.

Although Sufis are regarded as moderates, Abu Much said they are definitely not the "Reform" sector of Islam.

On the contrary, he said, the Sufis are known for their strict observance. He noted, for example, that at Har-El, the men and women sat together.

In the college, men and women attend the same classes, but women wear traditional, modest Moslem dress and they are separated from the men by a physical barrier.

But he makes a clear distinction between strict observance

and religious fanaticism. Speaking on the day that a Hamas suicide bomber tried to kill as many people as possible in Jerusalem, Abu Much described the attack as "an abomination."

It is important, he said, for Jews to know the true nature of Islam. If not, he said, the preconceptions will remain: "There is a difference between Islamic teaching and what people do in the name of Islam."

It's a great mistake, he said, to think that violence is typical of all Islam. That serves the purpose of the terrorists, because all Moslems become identified with them.

Abu Much has visited Moslem religious institutions in Egypt and Jordan, where he was received very well. "They understand the importance of having a Moslem religious institution in the State of Israel," he said.

The college, which is recognized by the Education Ministry and the Council for Higher Education, is authorized to grant the equivalent of a bachelor's degree. Students can then teach re-

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Edited by Shlomo Gazit, with Zeev Eytan

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# Pierce wins Aussie Open

## Agassi defeats Krickstein, meets Sampras in final

MELBOURNE (AP) — Mary Pierce kept the ball deep and pounced on Arantxa Sanchez Vicario's mistakes yesterday to win the Australian Open women's singles final — her first Grand Slam title.

Pierce, the No. 4 seed, defeated top-seeded Sanchez Vicario 6-3, 6-2 — a result that delayed Sanchez Vicario's bid to take over the No. 1 world ranking from the injured Steffi Graf.

Pierce, 20, avenged her loss to Sanchez Vicario in last year's French Open final and became the first Frenchwoman to win a Grand Slam singles title since Francoise Durr at the 1967 French Open and the first to win the Australian title.

The win over Sanchez Vicario took Pierce one hour, 25 minutes. It was a hard-fought victory in the arguably the best women's match of the tournament.

Pierce went through the tournament without dropping a set. Sanchez Vicario, suffering from tendinitis in her right arm, had been aiming for her fourth Grand Slam title — but lost in the Australian Open final for the second straight year.

The win will see Pierce move up to a career-high No. 3 ranking behind Graf and Sanchez Vicario.

The women's final went ahead as scheduled after overnight mopping up operations.

A storm which hit the arena Friday left the center court and media areas under ankle-deep water.

"You kind of think that when you've got a stadium with a roof you've got all the angles covered," joked Andre Agassi after he had advanced on Friday afternoon to the men's final.

Agassi, the No. 2 seed, led Aaron Krickstein 6-4, 6-4, 3-0 when



CAN'T GO ON — Aaron Krickstein winces in pain before retiring in his semifinal match.

Krickstein retired citing a groin injury.

Agassi now will face No. 1 seed Pete Sampras in the men's singles final today.

American pair Jared Palmer

and Richey Reneberg, the 13th seeds, won the men's doubles with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 victory over unseeded combination Mark Knowles of the Bahamas and Daniel Nestor of Canada.

# Mac. TA thrashes Ashdod to maintain hold on top spot

ORI LEWIS

MACCABI Tel Aviv and Maccabi Haifa again look like they will set the standard of National League soccer after emerging convincing winners in the return of top league action after a month's break.

The Tel Avivians continue to lead the standings, as Haifa and Hapoel Petah Tikva sit just two points behind.

The top three sides scored 11 goals between them — including a brilliant long-range Carmelo Mishish strike that will undoubtedly be a candidate for goal of the season — and conceded only one.

At the other end of the table, Hapoel Haifa are in dire trouble again after losing at home to Zefirion Holon, while Maccabi Herzliya — who had hoped they would see a revival in fortunes after Roni Klajman took over as chairman and Ze'ev Zeltzer as coach — suffered a knockout blow at the hands of Maccabi Haifa.

The lower divisions played the seventh round of the State Cup.

Maccabi Kiryat Gat, Shimon, Hapoel Ramat Gan, Hapoel Bat Yam, Hapoel Ashdod, Hapoel Kfar Sava, Hapoel Lod and Hakoah Ramat Gan are the eight Second Division sides that made it to the eighth round.

Third Division sides Hapoel Yeruham, Hapoel Marmorek, Hapoel Ahi Nazareth, Maccabi Acre, Maccabi Kiryat Ono and Hapoel Kfar Kana also advanced. Fourth Division side Hapoel Karmiel also made the next round, as did Hapoel Shikun Hamizrah, who knocked out Second Division leaders Maccabi Jaffa.

These 16 will be drawn against the 16 National League sides in the eighth round, to be played on February 25.

Mac. Herzliya 1, Mac. Haifa 4 Yesterday's televised match began at a furious pace, although the pass-

ing by both sides left much to be desired.

Haifa looked slightly more organized, although Herzliya was equal to all the visitors could throw at them.

The first chance fell to Haifa in the 13th minute, as Haim Revivo managed to run through the Herzliya defense and rounded goalkeeper Shuli Gilardi. However, he shot softly from the left and watched Alexander Polokov clear it off the line.

Herzliya responded immediately, as Ofer Mizrahi lobbed the ball into the empty Haifa goal, only to see his shot bounce and hit the crossbar.

Herzliya managed to keep up the momentum, and two minutes later earned a penalty as Moshe Glan pushed Vitali Mintenko over in the area. Yossi Madar made no mistake with the spot kick, sending Rafi Cohen the wrong way.

Haifa piled on the pressure and new acquisition Ofer Shirri equalized with a header five minutes before the break.

Haifa took full control in the second half and began to display the kind of flowing football that earned them the league title last season.

Shirri added a second goal in the 61st minute, and then the floodgates opened. Ronnie Levy added a third in the 64th minute with a superb glancing header and Revivo made 4-1 after receiving a perfect through ball from Eyal Berkowitz in the 68th minute.

Berkowitz later had to be stretched off after being struck heavily on the shin. Haifa was reduced to 10 men, having already made two substitutions.

Mac. Tel Aviv 1, Hap. Beersheba 2 Viki Bokovza was the first player to get his name on the 16th round's scorersheet when he netted for Beitar in the 11th minute.

The former Beersheba player headed home from a cross by Azerbaijan international Shahin Denayev.

But Beersheba was not to be outdone and replied with second-half goals from Nissim Avitan, who leveled in the 56th minute and scored the winner from a penalty in the 74th minute.

Hap. Beit She'an 0, Hap. PT 4 Petah Tikva came away from Beit She'an with an emphatic victory. French striker Carmelo Mishish set

Petah Tikva on their way after just two minutes with a solo effort. Four minutes later Eli Abaranel made it 3-0 for the visitors from close range.

Push Tikva continued to dominate the match, but the killer blow came in the second half when Mishish scored a spectacular goal from within the center circle as the entire Beit She'an side hoped for an entire flag which never came.

Mishish lofted the ball high, in the direction of the goal, as 'keeper Meir Cohen came off his line and was beaten by the flight of the ball.

Motil Kakkon sealed Beit She'an's fate 15 minutes later, as the hosts actively tried to play the offside trap. This time, Kakkon rounded the advancing 'keeper Cohen, who fell helplessly to the ground and shot at goal from 30 meters.

Ironi Rishon 2, Be'er Yehuda 2

A game of two halves saw Rishon dominate in the first, as Be'er Yehuda failed to find any kind of form.

Dudu Heffer did the damage for Rishon with goals in the 11th and 33rd minutes.

But in the second half, the fortunes were reversed. Moti Sasson struck a 48th-minute volley, and Vassili Mukan made sure of a share of the points with the equalizer in the 62nd minute.

Mac. PT 0, Mac. Netanya 2

Petah Tikva is still looking for its first home win this season and on current form may have to continue their search for quite some time.

Netanya was the side in form, and goals by Roman Filipchuk in the 21st minute and new Polish import Yaroslav Aroskevich — who struck in the 58th minute — made sure Netanya took all three points.

Hap. Haifa 0, Zefirion Holon 1

Haifa's season resumed in the same dismal fashion as it began, and the star-studded lineup again failed to deliver the goods.

Zefirion Holon went ahead in the 12th minute through a goal by Shai Holtzman, who arrived from Maccabi Haifa.

The hosts tried valiantly to at least gain a share of the points, but they could do nothing right. The side, which had promised before the season to dominate the sports headlines for all the right reasons,

now appears as if it will do so for all the wrong ones, and relegation again appears to be a distinct possibility.

Mac. Tel Aviv 3, Ironi Ashdod 0

There was only one side in this match. The league leaders made sure of maintaining their two-point lead through goals by Nir Siliva in the sixth minute, an Avi Nimni volley in the 11th and a strike by Eli Driks a minute before halftime.

Maccabi was never under threat from a disorganized Ashdod side, but failed to capitalize on several further chances in the second half.

Beit Jerusalem 0, Hap. Tel Aviv 0

Traditionally one of the season's most attractive fixtures, this match was one long yawn.

Neither side was able to produce any constructive moves, and an almost-fall Teddy Stadium was sent to sleep by a truly boring spectacle.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

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## Little changes

## WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks ended the day mixed, as investors worried that a US gross domestic product report signaled that the economy is headed for a slow-down. The fourth-quarter GDP report, which showed that inflation may be under control, pushed bonds up. The 30-year US Treasury bond was up more than \$10 per \$1,000 face value.

The Commerce Department said the nation's gross domestic product rose 4.5% in the fourth quarter of 1994, just shy of analysts' estimates of a 4.6% increase. Inflation indexes tied to the GDP report were moderate.

Analysts said the report should not discourage the Federal Reserve from increasing short-term

interest rates at its policy meeting that convenes next Tuesday. Alfred E. Goldman, vice president at A.G. Edwards and Sons Inc. in St. Louis, said he expects several tightening after that.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks fell 12.45 to 3,857.99. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by about 4 to 3 on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,284 up, 959 down and 682 unchanged. Big Board volume totaled 339.5 million shares at the close against 311.91 million in the previous session. The NYSE's composite index rose 0.97 to 255.89. Standard and Poor's 500-stock index rose 2.07 to 470.39. The Nasdaq rose 2.31 to 759.87.

LONDON (Reuters) — Shares closed with solid gains and good buying across the board after a hesitant start. The FTSE 100 finished up 14.9 points at 3,022.2, ignoring weaker Wall Street prices, for a rise of 27.2 since last Friday.

FRANKFURT — The 30-share DAX index closed up 1.01 at 2,031.70 points, a fall on the week of 23.88. In post-bourse

trading the Dax stood at 2030.56, down 10.23 points.

PARIS — French shares finished sharply lower after rumors resurfaced that Prime Minister Balladur was under pressure to resign, and a denial from a source close to Balladur came after the market had closed. The CAC-40 index closed down 12.15 at 1,814.13, a rise of 0.8 on the week.

## Dollar mixed, gold down

## CURRENCY REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) — The dollar declined against most key currencies at the end of a choppy week of trading. Gold was down.

In late New York trading, the dollar was quoted at 99.25 Japanese yen, down from 99.38 late Thursday. In London, the dollar fell to 99.20 yen from 99.30.

The dollar also was changing hands in New York at 1.5153 German marks, down from 1.5178. In London, the dollar edged up to 1.5150 from 1.5131.

Other late dollar rates in New York, compared with late Thursday's quotes were: 1.2750 Swiss francs, down from 1.2765; 5.2630

French francs, up from 5.2555; 1,602 Italian lire, unchanged; and, 1.4142 Canadian dollars, down from 1.4145.

The British pound was quoted at \$1.5900 compared to \$1.5907 late Thursday. In London, the pound fell to \$1.5915 from \$1.5934.

Gold in London attracted a closing bid price of \$377.80 per ounce, down from the closing price of \$381.00 bid per ounce Thursday. In Zurich the bid price was \$378.75, down from \$381.00 late Thursday. Silver traded in London at \$4.71 a troy ounce, down 7 cents from late Thursday.

## ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (27.1.95)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
Current (deposit for)	5.50%	5.00%	4.50%
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.12%	4.50%	4.25%
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.00%	4.25%	4.50%
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.75%	2.12%	1.87%
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.00%	2.50%	2.12%
Yen (¥10 million)	3.00%	2.50%	2.12%

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (26.1.95)	Buy	Sell	Rep.
Currency basket	3.3430	3.3550	3.3511
U.S. dollar	2.9791	3.0111	3.0000
German mark	1.4718	1.4807	1.4750
French franc	0.5987	0.6044	0.5980
British pound (sterling)	1.5241	1.5303	1.5270
Japanese yen (¥100)	1.7719	1.7760	1.7740
Swiss franc	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Italian lira	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Spanish peseta	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Portuguese escudo	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Belgian franc	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Dutch guilder	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Austrian schilling	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Australian dollar	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Canadian dollar	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
South African rand	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
South Korean won	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Indonesian rupiah	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Thai baht	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Singapore dollar	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Malaysian ringgit	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Philippine peso	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Chinese yuan	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Indian rupee	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Pakistani rupee	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Thai baht	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Singapore dollar	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Malaysian ringgit	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Philippine peso	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Chinese yuan	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Indian rupee	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390
Pakistani rupee	0.4382	0.4400	0.4390

\* These rates vary according to bank. Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

The Exchange Rates are from Friday.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.

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## Earthquake stock plays are mostly in Japan

## WALL STREET WEEK

NEW YORK (AP) — Stock investors are sifting through the financial rubble left by this month's disaster in Japan, looking for "earthquake plays," stocks of companies that might take part in the formidable rebuilding effort under way in Kobe.

Most of the attractive stock plays, however, are issues of Japanese companies expected to have the biggest hand in the rebuilding effort, analysts said. "After almost two weeks, (the stocks of) many Japanese construction companies have already gone up," said Hiroshi Yagi, an equities salesman at Nikko Securities Co. International in New York. "He said rebuilding should benefit companies like Shoji Construction Co., which specializes in reinforcing old buildings, and Fujita Corp., a large-scale general contractor."

Other obvious Japanese stock plays include construction machinery maker Komatsu Ltd. and Daewoo Heavy Industries, which makes temporary housing, Yagi said. Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Ishikawajima-Harima Industries are other potential plays.

Takao Hirose, who handles Japanese accounts at S.G. Warburg in New York, said that while

Japanese construction stocks may rise near-term, they have been subjected to "too much hype."

On Friday, stocks ended mixed as investors worried about a potential economic slowdown. The Dow Jones industrial average closed 12.45 lower at 3,857.99, ending 11.44 lower for the week. The NYSE's composite index rose 0.97 to 255.89, up 2.51 for the week. The Standard and Poor's 500-stock index rose 2.07 to 470.39, up 5.61 for the week. The Nasdaq composite index rose 1.35 to 759.81, down 3.14 for the week.

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## MUTUAL FUNDS

## Flexible

Fund's name	unit	reception	monthly	yearly	1994 (%)	1993 (%)	1992 (%)
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9	8.1	8.1

## Shares

Adi	89.22	87.58	-12.82	-12.82	83.6
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9

## Company Bonds

Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9

## Foreign Currency

Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9

## Mixed

Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9
Abnir	142.13	141.51	-7.22	-7.22	23.9

SOURCE: METAV Ltd. - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments. DATED: 26.1.95

SOURCE: METAV Ltd. - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments. DATED: 26.1.95







# Histadrut parley opens today, after coalition compromises

RAM renounced several of its reform plans for the Histadrut over the weekend so it could reach a compromise with Labor on the convention agenda in advance of the Histadrut convention, being held in Kfar Hamaccabiah today and tomorrow.

The compromises were necessary for Ram to prevent the Histadrut coalition from breaking up and to dissuade Labor from boycotting or disrupting the convention, which is intended to revolutionize the Histadrut with its far-

reaching reforms.

However, Labor Histadrut members intend to bring thousands of labor council activists to the convention, in case Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon attempts to snatch a vote in violation of the agreements reached between the two factions.

One Labor source warned that, "If Ramon tries to deviate from the agreements, or if he reverts to his childish, vindictive trait and starts slandering Labor and the former Histadrut leadership, as

he cannot resist, we will blow the convention sky high."

Histadrut Parliament Chairman MK Ran Cohen said at a special briefing Friday that the convention will mark a revolution in the Histadrut, changing it completely in structure, organization, and name.

Ram had backed down from its demand to dissolve the Histadrut's two top forums, the 1,501-member convention and 750-member council and leave the 121-member parliament as the

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

supreme body.

Instead, Cohen said, the convention will be whittled down in the future to 601 members, which will elect the parliament and authorize it to make all the decisions concerning the Histadrut's operation, trade unions, services etc.

Labor sources said however, that "in the future" means the next convention in four years' time, when, they said, Ramon

will be gone and there will be no one left to carry out these changes.

Ram also renounced its demand to dissolve the 80 labor councils right away and set up 20 regional ones instead. Instead, the two factions agreed to set up three regional councils in the central region as an experiment after the convention.

It was agreed not to harm the status of the incumbent labor council secretaries and chairwomen of Na'amat branches, and

not to set up any regional councils in more remote areas without the agreement of both factions.

This last clause infuriated Ramon, who heard about it after the fact and understood that Labor has been granted the right to veto the formation of more regional councils. Ramon vetoed another compromise reached between Labor and Ram, to boost the parliament by 15 members, instead of the 29 which Labor initially wanted.

The declaration of the new Histadrut's goals, composed by reform committee chairman Bin-Yamin Yasur, which spoke of a "free market economy" and canceling workers' tenure and other acquired rights, was deleted from the convention's agenda.

Ram also renounced its demand to hold personal elections for trade union leaders; candidates will continue to be chosen according to their political affiliation.

## 4 die, 10 hurt in road accidents

FOUR persons were killed and 10 injured, three of them seriously, in road accidents over the weekend.

Lior Cohen, 19, of Jerusalem was fatally injured early yesterday morning in a three-vehicle collision on the corner of Azza and Tchernichowsky streets in the capital. He died later in the afternoon. Eight people were injured, one of them seriously, in the accident.

The crash occurred when one driver failed to obey a stop sign and his car ran into a passing truck. The car then hit a second car trying to cross the intersection. Police said one of the drivers was drunk.

On Friday, Sinai Baranes, 35, his wife Miriam, 29, and their one-and-a-half-year-old son Tamir, of Moshav Aviezer were killed instantly when their small rented car swerved out of its lane near Ness Harim near Jerusalem and hit an Egged bus head-on.

Miriam's sister, Moran Doryev, 14, was seriously injured, but was reported in stable condition last night.

Police said Baranes was apparently speeding and lost control of the car.

Earlier Friday, an unidentified 75-year-old woman was seriously injured when a car hit her on a crosswalk on Tel Aviv's Ibn Gvirol Street. The driver, 27, was passing a car parked at the crosswalk when he hit the woman.

As of midday Friday, 12 people had died in road accidents last week. Police suspended the licenses of 610 drivers who had committed serious traffic violations.

In the first 27 days of January, 44 people were killed on the roads.



Rescue workers try to extricate the survivor of car-bus crash on Friday near Ness Harim in the Jerusalem hills. (Brian Hendler)

## Meretz places its order for former Shas portfolios

SARAH HONG

an answer regarding its intentions within the week.

Rabin is to meet tomorrow with Shas leader Aryeh Deri and a meeting may also be held with Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef by either Rabin or Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Shas's latest demand is that the government undertake to launch a construction campaign in the settlements surrounding Jerusalem.

In Labor it is believed that the fact the government opted for a compromise on the issue might open the door for a lenient Shas interpretation, and the compromise might be construed as a Shas accomplishment enabling it to rejoin the coalition.

Shas is seen as being under serious pressure. Its electorate has always been hawkish and the government's fortunes are steeply

declining. Shas itself is going down in the polls. From the 4 percent the party garnered in the 1992 elections, it is now below the 1 percent mark. This makes partnership with an unpopular government particularly unattractive for Shas.

But the loss of these ministries could be the final blow to the party, as it would lose the clout and funds with which to keep influencing potential voters.

Sources close to Rabin say the premier is not interested in severing relations with Shas, despite its siding with the opposition in last week's Knesset no-confidence vote. Nor will he engage in any cabinet reshuffling until he has Shas's answer, the sources said.

They added that a reshuffle might subject Rabin to heavy pressure to give up the Defense portfolio, which he does not want to relinquish.

## Women in Civil Service earn much less than men

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

WOMEN employed in the Civil Service get wages which are up to 42% lower than their male counterparts, according to wage scales provided by the Civil Service Commission.

This was revealed at a press conference last week by wage expert and economist Dr. Linda Efroni. She also noted that there are differentials between the wages paid workers in different ministries, even though they are all part of the same collective wage agreement and should be receiving the same wages.

Efroni said the Finance Ministry hides these facts from workers' groups negotiating for wage agreements, in order to prevent them from comparing themselves to workers in other ministries.

Women fare worst in the Police Ministry, where their average wages are 49% lower than the men's. The women, who make up 56% of ministry workers, earn an average gross wage of NIS 3,500, while the men earn an average of NIS 6,700 (excluding clothing, recreation, and car allowances).

The second largest gap is found in the Science and Technology Ministry - 68% of whose workers are women - where it reaches 45%. Men earn an average gross wage of NIS 6,900, and the women earn NIS 3,800.

Third comes the Transport Ministry, where the men earn 40% more than the women. In the Finance, Agriculture, Economics and Planning, Interior, Education, Foreign, Housing, Tourism, and Absorption ministries, the gap between men and women's wages ranges from 30% to 38%. Similar gaps exist in the income tax and customs offices.

The gap between women and men's wages is smaller in the Prime Minister's Office, the Industry and Trade and Labor and Social Affairs ministries, and the courts administration (excluding judges). But in these offices all the wages are significantly lower, Efroni noted.

"It is not clear whether this discrimination is deliberate or caused by historical circumstances," Efroni said. "The important thing is that these data, which constitute blatant and extreme sexual discrimination, are known to the Treasury as well as to trade unions."

Three weeks ago, after Efroni published the wage scales obtained from the Civil Service Commission, Commissioner Yitzhak Galnoor distributed thousands of copies of a letter claiming that Efroni had released erroneous information and had apologized for it.

Efroni said that "this is what the Finance Ministry and Civil Service Commission always do to deceive workers. They are now negotiating with the court workers over better conditions, but they refuse to provide them with any relevant data. If the workers happen to obtain the information elsewhere, they tell them, all this is nonsense, your wages are wonderful."

Efroni bases her analysis on the wage scales produced by the Treasury's Civil Service Unit in June 1994. The Treasury claimed that Efroni's data "are not correct"; she was wrong to have published the wage scales which were given her, but otherwise refused to comment or to provide any alternative data.

## Lab workers strike today

JUDY SIEGEL

SIX thousand laboratory workers at government hospitals, district health offices, and schools of medicine and pharmacy are to hold a five-hour warning strike today to protest their employers' "failure to institute safe working conditions." The strike will take place from 7 a.m. until noon.

Union chief Asher Goldschlager said staffers would handle emergency cases initially, but if the Health Ministry does not make a realistic offer they would launch a complete strike.

The biochemists and microbiologists, mostly women of child-bearing age, are worried about lack of protective equipment and poor ventilation in their labs.

The situation is especially severe in the ministry's standards labs in the century-old Beit Avi-hayil building in Jerusalem. Staffers there complained about a high incidence of cancers among them.

The Civil Service Commission urged the ministry to evacuate them immediately and shorten their work day from seven to five hours. The latter has been done.

Ministry spokeswoman Yifat Ben-Hai said last week that it was agreed that a committee of experts would be appointed by the ministry director-general and Histadrut trades union chief MK Amir Peretz to investigate working conditions and health dangers. However, the ministry refused to accept the Histadrut's nominees because they were political appointees and not experts in the field.

## Divers saved

THREE soldiers were saved from drowning by a Nature Reserves Authority inspector yesterday, after they became disoriented when diving deeper than permitted at Ellar's Coral Beach Nature Preserve.

Inspector Avi Gedalya, accompanied by a trainee on a routine inspection dive, first noticed a lone diver at a depth of 25 meters. The fact the man was diving alone aroused his concern, and when he swam over to check him he found him in a disoriented state and almost out of air.

Gedalya found the other two in distress at 45 meters; one breathing with difficulty from an almost empty tank and the other swimming aimlessly, apparently suffering from nitrogen narcosis.

The three soldiers, all doing compulsory service, were treated for decompression sickness in the pressure chamber at Josephthal Hospital, where they were listed in good condition. The incident is under investigation by the Israeli Diving Federation, which is expected to revoke their diving licenses.

## Sarid warns against amending Dead Sea Concession Law

LIAT COLLINS and EVELYN GORDON

ENVIRONMENT Minister Yossi Sarid has blasted the proposed amendments to the Dead Sea Works Concession Law discussed last week by a joint panel of the Knesset Interior and Finance committees.

The law would allow the Dead Sea Works, which is being privatized, to remain exempt from most national laws dealing with planning, environment, health, and hazardous materials. The final draft is to be discussed tomorrow and is expected to come up for second and third reading on Tuesday, a week after its first reading.

"All the other 'privileged' bodies in the Israeli economy were discovered following disasters," Sarid said. "We will discover the Dead Sea Works only after a disaster, too."

He told the meeting the state is obliged to balance economic and environmental interests. "The law being discussed brutally violates that balance and discriminates against bodies no less important than the Dead Sea Works, such as the Israel Electric Corporation," he said.

Finance Committee chairman

Gedalya Gal (Labor) said the joint committee wants to make a number of changes in the law before approving it, such as increasing the company's obligation to abide by building laws. However, the firm will still be exempt from many environmental and planning regulations.

The rush to complete the bill now is due to the fact that the Finance Committee has refused to approve the sale of Israel Chemicals (ICL) until it is passed, and the government wants to sell it soon.

The chairman of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, Yoav Saguy, said the speed with which the government is trying to pass the bill "has no place in any normal country."

Meanwhile, two groups submitted bids last week to purchase the 24.9 percent controlling stake of ICL, the Treasury reported. One group is headed by businessman Ted Arison and the other by the Israel Corporation and businessman Shaul Eisenberg.

Amir Rozenblit and Jose Rosenfeld contributed to this report.

## Repercussions from Salmovitz donnybrook still felt

LIAT COLLINS

WEDNESDAY'S Knesset brawl seems set to remain on the agenda until Speaker Shevah Weiss returns from Poland and the Knesset presidium can carry out its inquiry.

Several MKs last week discussed the uproar during which scores of coalition MKs verbally attacked Deputy Speaker Esther Salmovitz, swearing and waving fists after accusing her of trying to sneak in the vote on a Jerusalem bill.

"Nothing can justify that kind

of behavior," said MK Haim Oron, chairman of the Knesset Ethics Committee. "If someone thinks procedure has been violated, there are several addresses and means of making the complaint, but waving fists and screaming at the speaker is not one of them."

Oron was hesitant about determining whether the vote had technically been called early.

"Even if the move was complete-

ly in accordance with Knesset procedure - and I'm not entirely sure about that - I think the speaker should have a technique that permits people to speak or reach their seats in an orderly fashion and not to just press the button [to start the vote]."

"It's clear to anyone who saw what happened on television, as well as to those of us who were present, that it wasn't just one or two MKs who rushed in to vote, as sometimes happens, but scores of MKs who raced in from all corners of the plenum hall and its environs. Among other things, the speaker is responsible for letting an MK speak and vote in an orderly way. In this field, I think more could have been done."

Salmovitz herself said she had not done anything wrong. "I think there's a serious decline in the behavior that goes on in the

Knesset plenum. The incident cannot be isolated from what preceded it. It was a very difficult session. Emotions were running high and unimaginable things were being said. I tried to calm people down."

Salmovitz said the Knesset secretary had since stated he had rung the bell signaling the start of the voting 10 minutes before and not just five minutes earlier, as procedure demands.

She said she would continue to function as deputy speaker "in spite of those who want to get me out of the seat. I'm a very strong woman."

She added that the fact she is a woman was a major factor behind the MKs' behavior. She noted that Likud MK Limor Livnat is calling on all the female MKs to unite and condemn Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur for telling Salmovitz her conduct was "whorish."

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